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ԴՐԱՄԱԳԻՏԱԿԱՆ  
ՀԱՆԴԵՒՆ

ARMENIAN  
NUMISMATIC  
JOURNAL

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# ՀԱՅ ԴՐԱՄԱԳԻՏԱԿԱՆ ՀԱՆԴԻՍ ARMENIAN NUMISMATIC JOURNAL

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## ANNOUNCEMENT- ՅԱՅՏԱՐԱՐՈՒԹԻՒՆ

In this issue of ANJ, "Counterfeit Coins of Levon I" by R. Vardanyan, the gold coin of Levon I (page 6, No.1, Pl. 1) is classified as counterfeit. The Armenian Numismatic Society and the ANJ Editor do not agree with this attribution. In fact, if Dr. Paul Z. Bedoukian were alive, he would protest to the director of the History Museum of Armenia and may well request the return of the gold coin that he donated.

ՀՅՀ -ին այս համարին մեջ, «Լևոն Ի-ի կնդծ դրամներ», գրուած՝ Ռ. Վարդաննանի կողմէ, Լևոն Ա-ի ոսկեդրամը (էջ 6, թի 1, Տալ. 1.) դասարուած է որպէս կնծծ դրամ: Հայ Դրամագիտական Ընկերակողութիւնը և ալ ՀՅՀ -ին խմբագիրը չեն համաձայնիր այս վերագրումին հետո: Իրականութեան մեջ ներ Դոկտ. Զարդին Պ. Պառկեանը կնմանի ուլար, այսի բողոքի հայատանի Պատմութեան Թանգարանի տնօրինութեան, ինչպէս նաև կրնար պահանջմէ որ իր նուիրած ոսկեդրամը ներ վերադարձնի:

## MEMBERSHIP DISCOUNT SCHEDULE

All Armenian Numismatic Society members receive a 20% discount on all publications\*: *Armenian Numismatic Journal* issues (bound volumes included), *Special Publications*, Bedoukian publications, and also our silver medals.

\* Except for publications which are already offered at a reduced price

## ARTICLES SCHEDULED IN COMING ARMENIAN NUMISMATIC JOURNAL ISSUES

The Armenian Coin Auctions of 2013 and 2014, by Y. T. Nercessian

Pre-Coronation Trams of Levon II, by Y. T. Nercessian

Horse's Head Design on Coins of Sophene, by Y. T. Nercessian

Selected Armenian Numismatic Bibliography of Ancient and Medieval Periods, 2001-2010, by Y. T. Nercessian

Metrology of Copper Coinage of the Artaxiad Dynasty of Armenia, Artavasdes III (5-2 B.C.), Tigranes IV and Erato (2 B.C.-A.D. 1), Artavasdes IV and Augustus (A.D. 4-6), Tigranes V with Erato and Tigranes V with Augustus (A.D. 6)

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## TELEPHONE CALLS, LETTERS AND E-MAILS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Mr. Nercessian, to the knowledge of the members of the Armenian Numismatic Society my new book is now available for sale:

Aram Vardanyan

Dr. Aram Vardanyan, “*The Coins as Evidence for the History of Armenia and Adharbayjan in the X<sup>th</sup> Century AD*”, Guldedruck Verlag, Tuebingen, 2013. Hard cover, glossy paper, 287 pages, more than 180 black-white ill., weight 1255 g, price 48,50 Euros (excl. shipping costs). The book can be purchased through the *Muenzgalerie Muenchen* via an Email to Mrs. Maria Boehm at: [mgm@muenzgalerie.de](mailto:mgm@muenzgalerie.de)

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My name is Armen Tangamyan. I'm originally from Armenia, but now I live and work here in Bellevue, WA. I've been collecting coins for as long as I can remember myself, but recently I gained a huge interest in ancient Armenian numismatics, and now I also have a growing collection of Cilician Armenian coins. Simultaneously, I started researching about the medieval Armenian coinage and specifically the gold coin of Gosdantin I (by the way, I think this one actually belongs to Gosdantin IV, but that's a separate story...). Recently I got to know a few of the current members of ANS, such as Dr. Levon Saryan and Mr. Jirair Christianian and they are the people who suggested joining ANS. That's the reason I'm writing this email. I'm really interested in joining the association and I'd like to hear from you about it. What are it's activities, who are the members, what are the responsibilities and the benefits. Looking forward to hearing from you!

Armen Tangamyan

...Also, my friend Jirair Christianian suggested that I join the society and mention him as my reference...He mentioned that publications are 50% off for members after a \$50 membership fee. If that is possible, I would like to do that and add to my order SP 8 and SP14... Simon Maghakyan

**Editor's response: Attached is your revised information and application paper for membership. The information, “publications are 50% off for members after a \$50 membership fee” is incorrect.**

I encountered the following list of articles in the recent issue of Shekel: “The 250th issue features articles about ancient coins: *Rome's Judaea Capta Coins* by Robert Deutsch, and *The Jewish Kings of Armenia* by Marvin Tameanko; new issues from Israel: *Israel's 2013 Maccabiah Coins* by Andrew Perala, and *Yitzhak Shamir Honored on Medal* by Yossi Ahimeir; and the Holocaust: *Medals Commemorate Shanghai Ghetto* by Donn Pearlman, *Deggendorf Dollars* by Robert Messing, and *The Extraordinary life of Nat Sobel, Holocaust Survivor, and Father of The Shekel.*”

Levon Saryan

The [Levon II pre-coronation] coin weighed 2.88 grams, 20.8 mm, and die axis image three below, about 8-9:00 o'clock. I purchased the coin from Jack G[uevrekian], about 20 years ago. He wanted me to own it. At the time I did not know how important the coin was. I want you to know that I read your books each week and am very grateful for your hard work over the years. Some day I would like to have you see my collection and hear your comments. I look at many of them and think, "YT would have a story about this coin". All the best, God bless your work.

Chuck Hajinian, DDS

## ԼԵՒՈՆ Ի-Ի ԿԵՂԾ ԴՐԱՄՆԵՐ

### ՀԱՅԱՍՏԱՆԻ ՊԱՏՄՈՒԹԵԱՆ ԹԱՆԳԱՐԱՆԻ ՀԱՄԱՔԱՐԱՆԻ ՀԱՄԱՔԱՌՈՒԻՔ

Ուորբն Վարդաննան  
Հայաստանի Պատմութեան Թանգարան

(Աղյուսակ 1-3)

Հայաստանի պատմութեան թանգարանի կիրկնան հայկական դրամների հաւաքածուի մէջ 976-ը թագավորութեան իմանալիք լւոն 1 Մեծագործի դրամներն են. որոնց ամբողջական կատալոգը պատրաստ է երատարակութեան: Ես 60 նմուշ լւոնի դրամների տիպերով՝ վերշին շորջ հարիր եօթանասուն տարիների ընթացքու պատրաստուած կնոջիներ են: Արժանի շխամարելով կնոջ դրամներ լւոն 1-ի հսկական արամենի կատալոգով մէջ շնորհկելու քայլ նաև նկատի ունենալով, որ դրանք կարող են որշակի հենագործութիւն ներկայացնել դրամների համար, որոշուց այդ նմուշներ երատարակել առանձին:

Կը լեզուիծ արծայիտ դրամների օրինակով կնոջուած ծովածոյ նոնատիպ նրկու դրամ, մէկը՝ վլուններիկ Միթքարեան թանգարանից. միտք՝ վլիննայի Միթքարեան թանգարանից, երատարակուն են դնուս 1840-ական թուականներին: Այդ կնոջիները բացայայտն է կլինմէս Միթքինանը, դրանց մասին գրեթի ի բարեկարգութիւն՝ Ուրենան դրամնք գրում և տալով վլունտիկի օրինակի գրապատկերով: Երկու վանքների պարահայների վկայութեամբ, ինչպէս հաղորդում է հետինակը, դրամները նվույրել է վանքներին վայնութեան նվազ ուն իիր:

Կ. Միթքինանի գրքում Գրիգորի Գալէմքարեանի կողմէյ յաւելուած քածնում ներկայացնուած է մէկ այլ ակնյայտ կնոջ դրամ, որը դեռնագօյն պրմնից պատրաստուած, լւոն 1-ի դանգների անարունա նմանակութին է:

Ես վերջապէս, կ. Միթքինանի գրքում, նոյնպէս երատարակչի միջամտութեամբ, տնտ գտած միւս կնոջիքը՝ լւոն 1-ի ունէ դրամներն են: Սրանց կնոջ լինելու մասին հիմնաւորումները տրուել են առանձին յօդուածով, ուստի կերպարարունք միայն այլ յօդուածին յուրու կատարելու:

ՀԱՅԹ հաւաքածուի մէջ լւոն 1-ի կնոջուած դրամներից չորսը պատրաստուած են կէս ներկրամանների տիպերով՝ մէկը ուսկոյ (№ 1), նրանք՝ արծաթից (№ 2-4): Դժուուր է աւել, ուսկէ դրամը ծովուած է, թէ պատրաստուուն է հատման մասականք: Արծայիտ օրինակներն, ակնյայտորեն, ծովուած են իսկական դրամներից հանուած կաղապարներից: Մէջ՝ Արծաթներից ներկուսի կշիռը գնրազանցում է կէս ներկրամանների կշիռը (№ 2 և 3), միանին՝ նորմայի սահմաններում է:

Կը լեզուիծ դրամներից պատճենահանուած և կաղապարի մէշ ծովուած նմուշները 15-ն (№ 5-20): Շաբանները պատճենահանուել են 7 տարբեր դրամներից և ծովուուն են արծաթից, քայլ մէկից, որն արտօրից է: Բոլոր օրինակները գերազանցու են իսկական դրամների կշառյին նորման, բացառութեամբ № 20-ի, որը մաշուած չէ, քայլ կշուում է 2.44 գ, նորմայից պակաս. և պատրաստուած է ցածր յարփ դեմքաւուն նրանգով արծաթից:

Պինձէկ դանգնը ներկայացնուող կնոջիները 7 հատ են (№ 21-27), պատճենահանուած են չորս իսկական դրամներից՝ ծոված նոյնական, քայլ միայն մէշ է պանձից: Օրինակներից մէկը պատրաստուած է բաւական քարծ յարձ արծաթից (900), միւսները՝ սպիտականուն կամ զորշ մետաղներից: Պինձէկ նմուշի կշիռը 13.96 գ, մուտ նրկու անզամ զերազանցում է նորման:

<sup>1</sup> Հ. Կը լեզու. վլր. Միթքինան. Հայաստորիքի Ուրենամեան դրամնց, Վիեննա, 1892, էջ 11-12, մէշ:

<sup>2</sup> Մոն տեղանու. էջ 21-22, նմ. 9: Տե՛ս նաև Զ. Պատմական. Լիիլինան Կայսերական դրամները. Վիեննա, 1963, էջ 112, 226, XVIII, 772-773. Յ. Nercessian, Armenian Counterfeit Coin Detection, ANJ XVIII, 1992, p. 31, Pl. II, 10a-c.

<sup>3</sup> Շ. Վարդաննան. Լւոն 1-ի «ոսկի դրամներ», ՀՀՀ 8 (2012), էջ 3-30:

Կնքծիքների միս խումբը ներկայացնող օրինակները նմանակորիններ են. որոնք ոչ թէ պատմենահանուած են խվական դրամներից, այլ հասուած են Լոն 1-ի կրկնատիծ դրամների տիպների նմանութեամբ փորապորէն կնիքներուն (№ 28-58): Դրանք ներկա տիպ 1 և տիպ 2: Ներկուսն էլ յատինի նու վաղոց և հրատարակութեած են Զ. Պողոկնանի, Ե. Ներկանանի և Լ. Մարտանի կողմից:<sup>4</sup> Տիպ 1-ից ՎՌՄ-ում կայ 27 նմուշ, որոնցից 23-ը հասուած են արծաթից, չորս՝ գրքատոն մետաղից են և, հասանաբար, պատրաստութեած են ճուլման ներանակով: Արծաթէ օրինակների կշիռներն անկանոն են, տատանում են 2 գրամից մինչև 3.32 գ. Գրքատոն նմանների կշիռը բաւական կայուն է, բայց նորմայից բարձր: Տիպ 2-ից կայ չորս օրինակ, բոլորն էլ արծաթից են և կշտում են 2.10-ից 3.02 գ.:

Կնքծիքների յաջորդ տեսակը (№ 59-60) ներկայացնուած է ներկ նմուշով՝ պատրաստուած արծաթից, պահած դրամների նմանութեամբ, բայց յօրինուած մանրամասներով: Մարան, կարծէ թէ, հայտնի չեն հրատարակութիւններից:

Լուս 1-ի կնքծ դրամների ի յայտ զայտ ժամանակագրութեան մասին ոչինչ ստոյդ յայտնի չէ: Այլուսանդրէ, հնուսենիք բանգարանում այս կնքծ դրամների մտարագրման տարիքունիքին, կարծի է, թենուող առօս պատկերացում կազմել, թէ կնքծիքների որ տեսակը մտաւորական նոր կարող է յայտնուած լինել: Ուսկէ դրամի հարցը մի փոքր այլ է. Դ. Ըստութեածին մնչի այդուով ուկէ «դրամի» մասին յօդապահ երատարակէի թ 1881 թ: Աւոր է ենթարկը, որ հնիինան ասի ձեռք է բերել երատարակութեած ոչ շատ վաղ: Աս, թերևս, ՎՌՄ հաւաքածուի մնջ Լուս 1-ի ամենահին կնքծ դրամն է: Լուս ներկրամանի տիպնութեած ներկու վելոյ դրամները նոյնպիս բաւական են նու. դրամնցից մէկը № 2, նոյն է Հայարյան ճնշմարանի հաւաքածուի մէջ և մասուր է գործեն բանգարան 1922 թ., իսկ միաւր № 3, նոյն է Էջմիածնի ճնշմարանի հաւաքածուի հնու միամին, 1929 թ.: «Իին նաև կրկնատիծ դրամների պատմենահանմամբ պատրաստուած № 9 և 11-16 կնքծ դրամները, որոնցից ներքը բանգարան են մուտքագրութեած 1922 թ., մինչը 1929 թ.: «Ասմենատարա վաս են՝ յօրինուած տիպնութեած արծաթէ «գունզներ», որոնցից առաջինը ստացուիլ է 1948 թ.: Կրկնատիծ դրամների պատմենահանմամբ կատարուած Նո 17-20 նմուշները ստացուիլ են 1970-1980-ական թասկաններին: Պատմենահանուած դամակները մուտք են գործեն 1955-1992 թթ. ընթացքում: Կրկնատիծ դրամների տիպ 1 նմանակութիւններից առաջինը ստացուիլ է 1965 թ., մասաց 26-ը՝ 1970-2011 թթ. ընթացքում. իսկ տիպ 2-ի պատճին նմուշը մտարագրութեած է 1971 թ. միս ներքը՝ մինչև 1984 թ.:

## COUNTERFEIT COINS OF LEVON I FROM THE COLLECTION AT THE HISTORY MUSEUM OF ARMENIA

Ruben Vardanyan  
History Museum of Armenia

(Plates 1-3)

In the History Museum of Armenia's (HMA's) collection of Cilician coins, there are 976 coins of Levon I the Magnificent, the founder of the kingdom of Cilician Armenia. The full catalogue of these coins is ready for publication. In addition to these coins of Levon I, there are 60 forgeries, produced over the last approximately 170 years. It was not considered worthwhile to include the forged coins with the real coins of Levon I, while still bearing in mind that they may have some interest for numismatists, and so it was decided to publish these specimens separately.

Two cast counterfeits of two-lion drams type, one from the Venice Mekhitarist Museum, and the other - from the Vienna Mekhitarist Museum, were published in the 1840s. Father Clement Sibilian

<sup>4</sup> Զ.Պ. Պողոկնան, Կիլիկիան Տայառանի դրամները. Վլիննա, 1963, էջ 112, 226, XVIII.774-775 (տիպ 1). Յ. Ներսեսյան, Armenian Counterfeit Coin Detection, ANJ XVIII, 1992, p. 30, Pl. II, 7, 8 (տիպ 1), p. 31, Pl. II, 9 (տիպ 2). Լ. Սարյան, Two Counterfeit Armenian Trans from eBay and Other Pitfalls of the Internet, ANJ 33, 2007, p. 63, Fig. 1(տիպ 1), p. 63-64, Fig. 2 (տիպ 2).

revealed these forgeries, and wrote about them in his “*Classification of Roubenian Coins*” and provided a line drawing of the Venice example. According to the author, two abbots testified that the coins were a gift from a guest on a journey to the monastery.

Grigor Galemkearian, the publisher, included in the appendix to Sibilian’s book an obviously counterfeit coin, which was made of yellowed copper and was an artless replica of Levon’s *dangs*.

And finally, the next fake coins in Sibilian’s book were also included due to the intervention of the publisher and were gold coins of Levon I. The justifications for considering these coins to be forgeries have been given in a separate article, and thus we believe it sufficient here to merely make note of that article.

Four of the counterfeit Levon I coins in the HMA’s collection are of half double-drams type and consist of one gold (№ 1) and three silver specimens (№ 2-4). It is difficult to say whether the gold piece was cast, or struck. Two of the silvers (№ 2 and 3) are heavier than the half-double drams, while the other is within normal limits.

There are 15 counterfeits of two-lion drams, which were cast using a mold (№ 5-20). These specimens were copied from seven different original coins and cast in silver, except for one, which is in brass. All of these specimens are heavier than the real coins, except for № 20, which is not worn, weighs 2.44 grams, less than normal, and was also made out of a lower-quality, yellowish silver.

There are 7 counterfeits of copper *dangs* (№ 21-27) which were copied from four real coins using the casting method, with one example made from copper. One from this group was made of high quality silver (900), while the others were made of whitish or grey metals. The weight of the copper forgery, 13.96 grams, is almost two times heavier than normal.

Another group of fakes are replicas or imitations that were not cast from real coins but were struck by dies engraved in the likeness of Levon I two-lion drams (№. 28-58). These are of two types, which will be referred to below as Type 1 and Type 2. Both were known for a long time and were published by P. Bedoukian, Y. Nercessian, and L. Saryan. There are 27 examples of Type 1 in the HMA collection, of which, 23 are silver, while the remaining four are made of greyish metal. They were probably made by casting. The weights of the silver forgeries are irregular and fluctuate between 2 – 3.32 g, but the weights of the greyish metal coins are consistent, though heavier than the originals. There are four examples of Type 2 coins, all of which are made of silver and weigh between 2.10 – 3.02 g.

The next variety of forgeries is represented by two examples (№ 59-60). These specimens are made of silver, in the likeness of copper coins, but with invented details. These seem not to have been published.

The chronology of the appearance of the counterfeit coins of Levon I is not known to any precise degree. In any case, following the dates of entry of the counterfeit coins into the HMA will allow us to formulate an idea, even if a vague one, of approximately when that type of forgery appeared. The question of the gold coin is a little different: D. Schlumberger wrote about a gold “coin” with one lion in an article published in 1881. It is to be supposed that the author did not acquire the coin much earlier than the date of publication. This is likely the oldest counterfeit coin of Levon I in the HMA collection. Two counterfeit coins of the half double-dram type are also quite old, and one of them, № 2, came to the museum in 1922 from the Lazaryan Seminary collection, while the other, № 3, was in the collection of the Manuscript Museum (Matenadaran) at Ejmiatsin and was acquired by the HMA in 1929. The forgeries produced by copying the two-lion drams are also old (№ 9 and 11-16), and three of these entered into the HMA’s collection in 1922, and one in 1929. Relatively early are the silver *dangs* with invented types, with one example received by the HMA in 1948. The other copied two-lion drams (№ 17-20) were received in the 1970s-1980s. Copied *dangs* came to the museum between 1955-1992. The first of the Type 1 imitations of the two-lion drams was acquired by the

museum in 1965, with the remaining 26 arriving between 1970-2011. The first of the Type 2 imitations came in 1971, and the other three up until 1984.

## ԿԵԼԾ ԴՐԱՄՆԵՐԻ ՑՈՒՑԱԿԸ

Այն դեպքում, եթե կենծ դրամները պատճենահանուած են իսկական դրամներից, և ՀՊԹ հաւաքածողի մէջ կան Ալոն Լ-ի դրամներ, որոնց կնիքներից մէկը կամ նրկուսը նոյնանում են կնիքների ենս, տրուլ է յորւմ հետևանալ օրինակներով «Խնչպէս SNA I, 86 դիմ., hdd3.haYOC<sup>c</sup> 6», այսինքն՝ տունալ կեղծ դրամի դիմերներ համապատասխանում է Sylloge Nummorum Armenorum, հատոր I, կատալոգի № 86 իսկական դրամի դիմերնին, որի կնիքի կողն է hdd3.haYOC<sup>c</sup> 6, կամ «Խնչպէս SNA I, 174, 175. A2.haYOC<sup>c</sup> 9 / A2.asTQWCOY 4», այսինքն՝ տունալ կեղծ դրամի և դիմերներ, և դարձներնը համապատասխանում են SNA I-ի № 174 և 175 դրամների նրկու կողմի նշուած կնիքներին:

Ցուցակում հիրաքանյուր նմուշի վիրաբերյալ տրուած են հետևալ տեղեկութիւնները.

- ենթական համար, մետաղ, կշիռ, առանձագոյն տրամագիծ, կնիքների յարաբերութիւնը,
- քանգարանի գոյրային համարը, դրամի ծագումը և մուտքագրման տարին,
- դիմերնի և դարձների գրութիւնները
- մատնագիտական հյումնի, եթէ այդավիսիր կան:

## CATALOGUE OF COUNTERFEIT COINS

In cases where counterfeit coins are copied from true coins and where there are coins of Levon I in the HMA collection, one or two dies of which are identical with the forged coins, the reference is given as in following examples: "As SNA I, 86 obv., hdd3.haYOC<sup>c</sup> 6", i.e., the obverse of this counterfeit coin is the same as the obverse of original coin № 86 from the Sylloge Nummorum Armenorum (SNA), vol. 1, and the code on the die is hdd3.haYOC<sup>c</sup> 6. Another example is: "As SNA I, 174, 175. A2.haYOC<sup>c</sup> 9 / A2.asTQWCOY 4", where both the obverse and the reverse of the counterfeit coin correspond to the dies of both sides of original coins № 174 and 175 in SNA I.

In the catalogue, the following information is given for each specimen:

- serial number, metal, weight, maximum diameter, die axis;
- museum inventory number, provenance, and date of entrance into museum;
- obverse and reverse legends
- bibliographic references, if any.

Կետ նրելդրամների տիպի ուկնտ, «գլուխ»  
Gold “coin” of half double-dram type

1. Ոսկի, 4.83 գ, 23.1 մմ, 12 հ:  
Գ.հ. 19332: Զ. Պատմկեան, նույր, 1984:  
Դիմ. +Լեռու ԹԱԳԱԿՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՅ  
Դարձ. +ՎԱՐԴՈՂՈՒԹՅՈՒՆ ԱՍՏԻՌՈ  
Զախ դաշտում Դ մենագիրը:

1. AV; 4.83 g; 23.1 mm; 12 h.  
Inv. 19332. P. Bedoukian, gift, 1984.  
Obv. +Լեռու ԹԱԳԱԿՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՅ  
Rev. +ՎԱՐԴՈՂՈՒԹՅՈՒՆ ԱՍՏԻՌՈ  
Monogram Դ in l. field

Պատճենահանուած ճուղածոյ կես երկդրամներ  
Copied cast half double-drams

2. Արծաթ, 5.48 գ, 22.5 մմ, 11 ժ:  
Գ.հ. 5318: Լազարեան ճնշարանի նախկին հաւաքածոիդ, ստացուլ է 1922 թ.:  
Դիմ. +Լեհուն ԹԱԳԱՀՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՅ  
Դարձ. +ԿԱՐՈՌՈՒԹԲԱՆ ԱՍՏԻՇՈՅ  
Ինչպէս SNA I, 86 դիմ., hdd3.haYOC' 6.

3. Արծաթ, 4.10 գ, 22.3 մմ, 5 ժ:  
Գ.հ. 8911: Էջմիածնի մատենադարանի նախկին հաւաքածոիդ, ստացուլ է 1929 թ.:  
Դիմ. +Լեհուն ԹԱԳԱՀՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՅ  
Դարձ. +ԿԱՐՈՌՈՒԹԲԱՆ ԱՍՏԻՇՈՅ  
Ինչպէս SNA I, 93 դիմ., hdd3.haYOC' 9.

4. Արծաթ, 2.70 գ, 21.7 մմ, 3 ժ:  
Գ.հ. 18389-216: Ա. Փոլայլիան, նույր, 1971:  
Դիմ. +Լեհուն ԹԱԳԱՀՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՅ  
Դարձ. +ԿԱՐՈՌՈՒԹԲԱՆ ԱՍՏԻՇՈՅ

Պատճենահանուած ճուղածոյ կրկնառիծ դրամներ  
Copied cast two-lion drams

5. Արծաթ, 4.30 գ, 21.5 մմ, 2 ժ:  
Գ.հ. 5311: Նարանդինան, նույր, 1925:  
Դիմ. +Լեհուն ԹԱԳԱՀՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՅ  
Դարձ. +ԿԱՐՈՌՈՒԹԲԱՆ ԱՍՏԻՇՈՅ  
Ինչպէս SNA I, 199 դիմ., A2.haYOC' 1 Lewn.

6. Արծաթ, 3.33 գ, 22.1 մմ, 3 ժ:  
Գ.հ. 18981-58: Գ. Մազլումյան, նույր, 1979:  
Դիմ. +Լեհուն ԹԱԳԱՀՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՅ  
Դարձ. +ԿԱՐՈՌՈՒԹԲԱՆ ԱՍՏԻՇՈՅ  
Ինչպէս SNA I, 174, 175. A2.haYOC' 9 / 2.asTOWCOY 4.

7. Արծաթ, 3.20 գ, 22.2 մմ, 3 ժ:  
Գ.հ. 19032-33: Գ. Մազլումյան, նույր, 1980:  
Մոյս դիմ. և դարձ. ինչպէս նախորդը:

8. Արոյք, 2.87 գ, 22.1 մմ, 3 ժ:  
Գ.հ. 17687-25: Պ. Պողոսյան, նույր, 1961:  
Դիմ. +Լեհուն [ԹԱԳԱՀՈՐ] ՀԱՅՈՅ  
Դարձ. +ԿԱՐՈՌՈՒԹԲԱՆ [ԱՅՍՈՐ?]  
Ինչպէս SNA I, A2 դար.

9. Արծաթ, 4.09 գ, 21.0 մմ, 8 ժ:  
Գ.հ. 5309: Լազարեան ճնշարանի նախկին հաւաքածոիդ, ստացուլ է 1922 թ.:  
Դիմ. +Լեհուն ԹԱԳԱՀՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՅ  
Դարձ. +ԿԱՐՈՌՈՒԹԲԱՆ ԱՍՏԻՇՈՅ  
Ինչպէս SNA I, 462, A5.haYOC' 1<sub>ՈՐ</sub> / C1.asTOWCO 6.

10. Արծաթ, 3.33 գ, 22.6 մմ, 12 ժ:  
Գ.հ. 5312: Սարգսյան, նույր, 1920ական թթ.:  
Դիմ. +Լեհուն ԹԱԳԱՀՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՅ  
Դարձ. +ԿԱՐՈՌՈՒԹԲԱՆ ԱՍՏԻՇՈՅ  
Ինչպէս SNA I, 378 դիմ., 382 դարձ. A5.haYOC' 5<sub>ՈՐ</sub> / A5.asTOC 5.

2. AR; 5.48 g; 22.5 mm; 11 h.  
Inv. 5318. Ex Lazarian seminary's collection, acquired in 1922.  
Obv. +Լեհուն ԹԱԳԱՀՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՅ  
Rev. +ԿԱՐՈՌՈՒԹԲԱՆ ԱՍՏԻՇՈՅ  
As SNA I, 86 obv., hdd3.haYOC' 6.

3. AR; 4.10 g; 22.3 mm; 5 h.  
Inv. 8911. Ex Ejmiatsin Matenadaran's collection, acquired in 1929.  
Obv. +Լեհուն ԹԱԳԱՀՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՅ  
Rev. +ԿԱՐՈՌՈՒԹԲԱՆ ԱՍՏԻՇՈՅ  
As SNA I, 93 obv., hdd3.haYOC' 9.

4. AR; 2.70 g; 21.7 mm; 3 h.  
Inv. 18389-216. A. Poladyan, gift, 1971.  
Obv. +Լեհուն ԹԱԳԱՀՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՅ  
Rev. +ԿԱՐՈՌՈՒԹԲԱՆ ԱՍՏԻՇՈՅ

5. AR; 4.30 g; 21.5 mm; 2 h.  
Inv. 5311. Nalbandyan, gift, 1925.  
Obv. +Լեհուն ԹԱԳԱՀՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՅ  
Rev. +ԿԱՐՈՌՈՒԹԲԱՆ ԱՍՏԻՇՈՅ  
As SNA I, 199 obv., A2.haYOC' 1 Lewn.

6. AR; 3.33 g; 21.5 mm; 3 h.  
Inv. 18981-58. G. Mazlumyan, gift, 1979.  
Obv. +Լեհուն ԹԱԳԱՀՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՅ  
Rev. +ԿԱՐՈՌՈՒԹԲԱՆ ԱՍՏԻՇՈՅ  
As SNA I, 174, 175. A2.haYOC' 9 / 2.asTOWCOY 4.

7. AR; 3.20 g; 22.2 mm; 3 h.  
Inv. 19032-33. G. Mazlumyan, gift, 1980.  
Same obv. and rev. as preceding.

8. Brass; 2.87 g; 22.1 mm; 8 h.  
Inv. 17687-25. P. Poghosyan, purchase, 1961.  
Obv. +Լեհուն [ԹԱԳԱՀՈՐ] ՀԱՅՈՅ  
Rev. +ԿԱՐՈՌՈՒԹԲԱՆ [ԱՅՍՈՐ?]  
As SNA I, class A2

9. AR; 4.09 g; 21.0 mm; 8 h.  
Inv. 5309. Ex Lazarian seminary's collection, acquired in 1922.  
Obv. +Լեհուն ԹԱԳԱՀՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՅ  
Rev. +ԿԱՐՈՌՈՒԹԲԱՆ ԱՍՏԻՇՈՅ  
As SNA I, 462, A5.haYOC' 1<sub>ՈՐ</sub> / C1.asTOWCO 6.

10. AR; 3.33 g; 22.6 mm; 12 h.  
Inv. 5312. Sargsyan, gift, 1920s.  
Obv. +Լեհուն ԹԱԳԱՀՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՅ  
Rev. +ԿԱՐՈՌՈՒԹԲԱՆ ԱՍՏՈՇ  
As SNA I, 378 obv., 382 rev. A5.haYOC' 5<sub>ՈՐ</sub> / A5.asTOC 5.

11. Արծաթ, 3.76 գ, 22.8 մմ, 12 ժ:  
Գ.հ. 5326: Լազարեան մենարանի նախկին հայարածուից, ստացվել է 1922 թ.:  
Նոյն դիմ. և դարձ., ինչպես նախորդը:

12. Արծաթ, 3.41 գ, 24.6 մմ, 12 ժ:  
Գ.հ. 8912: Էջմիածնի մատենադարանի նախկին հայարածուից, ստացվել է 1929 թ.:  
Նոյն դիմ. և դարձ., ինչպես նախորդը:

13. Արծաթ, 3.90 գ, 22.5 մմ, 12 ժ:  
Գ.հ. 12382: Կ. Խոջինան, նույր, 1933:  
Նոյն դիմ. և դարձ., ինչպես նախորդը:

14. Արծաթ, 3.47 գ, 22.5 մմ, 12 ժ:  
Գ.հ. 17524-49: Հ. Հովհաննիսան, գնում, 1958:  
Նոյն դիմ. և դարձ., ինչպես նախորդը:

15. Արծաթ, 3.79 գ, 22.5 մմ, 12 ժ:  
Գ.հ. 17524-53: Հ. Հովհաննիսան, գնում, 1958:  
Նոյն դիմ. և դարձ., ինչպես նախորդը:

16. Արծաթ, 3.68 գ, 22.5 մմ, 12 ժ:  
Գ.հ. 5324: Լազարեան մենարանի նախկին հայարածուից, ստացվել է 1922 թ.:  
Նոյն դիմ. և դարձ., ինչպես նախորդը:

17. Արծաթ, 3.48 գ, 22.3 մմ, 12 ժ:  
Գ.հ. 19032-22: Գ. Մազլումյան, նույր, 1980:  
Դիմ. +Լենու ԹԱԳԱԽՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՅ  
Դարձ. +ԿԱՐՈՌՈՒԹԲՆ ԱԱՏՈՒՌՈ  
հնչպէս SNA I, 506. B1d.haYOC' 3 / B1.asTOWCO 8.

18. Արծաթ, 3.40 գ, 22.7 մմ, 2 ժ:  
Գ.հ. 19032-43: Գ. Մազլումյան, նույր, 1980:  
Նոյն դիմ. և դարձ., ինչպես նախորդը:

19. Արծաթ, 2.71 գ, 20.8 մմ, 1 ժ:  
Գ.հ. 19374-2: Գ. Բարսեղյան, նույր, 1984:  
Դիմ. +Լենու ԹԱԳԱԽՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՅ: Աստո՞ ծախ դախուուն:  
Դարձ. +ԿԱՐՈՌՈՒԹԲՆ ԱԱՏՈՒՌՈ  
հնչպէս SNA I, 515 դիմ., B2.haYOC' 2.

20. Արծաթ (յարգ՝ 600), 2.44 գ, 21.0 մմ, 1 ժ:  
Գ.հ. 18389-217: Ա. Փոլարեան, նույր, 1971:  
Նոյն դիմ. և դարձ., ինչպես նախորդը:

**Պատճենահանուած ճուլածոյ դանգնք**  
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21. Արծաթ մենար, 5.64 գ, 26.4 մմ, 3 ժ:  
Գ.հ. 17817-117: Գ. Արևարդնեան, նույր, 1955:  
Դիմ. +Լենու ԹԱԳԱԽՈՐ ՀԱՅՈ  
Դարձ. +ԾԽԵԱԼ Ի ԲԱՂԱՔՍ Ի ՍԻՍ  
հնչպէս SNA I, 897. haywo C2 / aisis B1.

22. Արծաթ, 8.59 գ, 27.2 մմ, 9 ժ:  
Գ.հ. 17427-42: Ա. Փոլարեան, նույր, 1957:  
Դիմ. \*Լենու ԹԱԳԱԽՈՐ ՀԱՅՈ  
Դարձ. +ԾԽԵԱԼ Ի ԲԱՂԱՔՍ Ի ՍԻՍ  
հնչպէս SNA I, 897. haywo C2 / aisis B1.

21. AR; 3.76 g; 22.8 mm; 12 h.  
Inv. 5326. Ex Lazarian seminary's collection, acquired in 1922.  
Same obv. and rev. as preceding.

12. AR; 3.41 g; 24.6 mm; 12 h.  
Inv. 8912. Ex Ejmiatsin Matenadaran's collection, acquired in 1929.  
Same obv. and rev. as preceding.

13. AR; 3.90 g; 22.5 mm; 12 h.  
Inv. 12382. K. Khidishyan, gift, 1933.  
Same obv. and rev. as preceding.

14. AR; 3.47 g; 22.5 mm; 12 h.  
Inv. 17524-49. H. Hovhannisyian, purchase, 1958.  
Same obv. and rev. as preceding.

15. AR; 3.79 g; 22.5 mm; 12 h.  
Inv. 17524-53. H. Hovhannisyian, purchase, 1958.  
Same obv. and rev. as preceding.

16. AR; 3.68 g; 22.5 mm; 12 h.  
Inv. 5324. Ex Lazarian seminary's collection, acquired in 1922.  
Same obv. and rev. as preceding.

17. AR; 3.48 g; 22.3 mm; 12 h.  
Inv. 19032-22. G. Mazlumyan, gift, 1980.  
Obv. +Լենու ԹԱԳԱԽՈՐ ՀԱՅՈ  
Rev. +ԿԱՐՈՌՈՒԹԲՆ ԱԱՏՈՒՌՈ  
As SNA I, 506. B1d.haYOC' 3 / B1.asTOWCO 8.

18. AR; 3.40 g; 22.7 mm; 2 h.  
Inv. 19032-43. G. Mazlumyan, gift, 1980.  
Same obv. and rev. as preceding.

19. AR; 2.71 g; 20.8 mm; 1 h.  
Inv. 19374-2. G. Barseghyan, gift, 1984.  
Obv. +Լենու ԹԱԳԱԽՈՐ ՀԱՅՈ. Star in I. field.  
Rev. +ԿԱՐՈՌՈՒԹԲՆ ԱԱՏՈՒՌՈ  
As SNA I, 515 obv., B2.haYOC' 2.

20. AR (fineness 600); 2.44 g; 21.0 mm; 12 h.  
Inv. 18389-217. A. Poladyan, gift, 1971.  
Same obv. and rev. as preceding.

21. White metal; 5.64 g; 26.4 mm; 3 h.  
Inv. 17817-117. G. Arslanyan, gift, 1955.  
Obv. +Լենու ԹԱԳԱԽՈՐ ՀԱՅՈ  
Rev. +ԾԽԵԱԼ Ի ԲԱՂԱՔՍ Ի ՍԻՍ

22. AR; 8.59 g; 27.2 mm; 9 h.  
Inv. 17427-42. A. Poladyan, gift, 1957.  
Obv. \*Լենու ԹԱԳԱԽՈՐ ՀԱՅՈ  
Rev. +ԾԽԵԱԼ Ի ԲԱՂԱՔՍ Ի ՍԻՍ  
As SNA I, 897. haywo C2 / aisis B1.

23. Պղինձ, 13.96 գ, 28.1 մմ, 4 ժ: Գ.հ. 19033-11. Գ. Մազլումյան, նույր, 1980: Դիմ. +Ենիոն ԱՄԳԱԿՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՆՅ Դարձ. +ԵՒՆՍԻ Կ ԳՐԱԼՍՍ Ի ՍՍ Ինչպես SNA I, 954. haywoc' C5 / niss D2.

24. Սպիտակ մնատաղ, 7.45 գ, 29.5 մմ, 9 ժ: Գ.հ. 18534-2: Հ. Դնմիրճյան, նույր, 1972: Դիմ. +Ենիոն ԹՐԱԳԱԿՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՆՅ Դարձ. +ԵՒՆՍԻ Ա Կ ԳՐԱԼՍՍ Ի ՍՍ Ինչպես SNA I, 955. haywoc' D1 / sis/sis B20. Y. Nercessian, Armenian Counterfeit Coin Detection, ANJ XVIII, 1992, p. 31, Pl. II, 11, 12.

25. Սպիտակ մնատաղ, 6.27 գ, 27.1 մմ, 9 ժ: Գ.հ. 19339-1. Օ. Տեր-Յովհաննիսյան, նույր, 1984: Մոյն դիմ. և դարձ., ինչպես նախորդը:

26. Սպիտակ մնատաղ, 5.37 գ, 29.1 մմ, 9 ժ: Գ.հ. 19339-2: Օ. Տեր-Յովհաննիսյան, նույր, 1984: Մոյն դիմ. և դարձ., ինչպես նախորդը:

27. Գորշ մնատաղ, 7.67 գ, 29.3 մմ, 8 ժ: Գ.հ. 18248-2: Պ. Մարգարյան, նույր, 1970: Մոյն դիմ. և դարձ., ինչպես նախորդը: Y. Nercessian, Armenian Counterfeit Coin Detection, ANJ XVIII, 1992, p. 30, Pl. II, 12.

Կրկնափակ դրամների նմանակութիւններ  
Imitation two-lion drams

Տիպ 1  
Type 1

28. Արծաթ, 2.00 գ, 23.4 մմ, 12 ժ: Գ.հ. 17939-59: Պ. Ջուկինս, նույր, 1965: Դիմ. +Ենիոն ԹԱԳԱԱ ԱԱԾՆ ՀԱՅՈՆՅ Դարձ. +ԿԱՐՈՌԻԹԲՆ ԱԱԾՆԾՈՅ Ինչպես CCA, 774, 775 և CAC, 1825-1828.

Y. Nercessian, Armenian Counterfeit Coin Detection, ANJ XVIII, 1992, p. 30, Pl. II, 7, 8. L. Saryan, Two Counterfeit Armenian Trams from eBay and Other Pitfalls of the Internet, ANJ 33, 2007, p. 63, Fig. 1.

29. Արծաթ, 2.90 գ, 23.3 մմ, 12 ժ: Գ.հ. 18307: Ե. Ղազարյան, նույր, 1970: Մոյն դիմ. և դարձ., ինչպես նախորդը:

30. Արծաթ, 2.94 գ, 22.8 մմ, 12 ժ: Գ.հ. 18602-12: Ա. Ամատոնի, նույր, 1974: Մոյն դիմ. և դարձ., ինչպես նախորդը:

31. Արծաթ, 3.32 գ, 23.4 մմ, 12 ժ: Գ.հ. 18602-15: Ա. Ամատոնի, նույր, 1974: Մոյն դիմ. և դարձ., ինչպես նախորդը:

32. Արծաթ, 2.66 գ, 22.6 մմ, 12 ժ: Գ.հ. 18602-16: Ա. Ամատոնի, նույր, 1974: Մոյն դիմ. և դարձ., ինչպես նախորդը:

23. AE; 13.96 g; 28.1 mm; 4 h. Inv. 19033-11. G. Mazlumyan, gift, 1980. *Օճ.* +Ենիոն ԱՄԳԱԿՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՆՅ Հարձ. +ԵՒՆՍԻ Կ ԳՐԱԼՍՍ Ի ՍՍ Աս SNA I, 954. haywoc' C5 / niss D2.

24. White metal; 7.45 g; 29.5 mm; 9 h. Inv. 18534-2. Demirchyan, gift, 1972. *Օճ.* +Ենիոն ԹՐԱԳԱԿՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՆՅ Հարձ. +ԵՒՆՍԻ Ա Կ ԳՐԱԼՍՍ Ի ՍՍ Աs SNA I, 955. haywoc' D1 / sis/sis B20. Y. Nercessian, Armenian Counterfeit Coin Detection, ANJ XVIII, 1992, p. 30, Pl. II, 11.

25. White metal; 6.27 g; 27.1 mm; 9 h. Inv. 19339-1. O. Ter-Hovhannisyan, gift, 1984. Same obv. and rev. as preceding.

26. White metal; 5.37 g; 29.1 mm; 9 h. Inv. 19339-2. O. Ter-Hovhannisyan, gift, 1984. Same obv. and rev. as preceding.

27. Grey metal; 7.67 g; 29.3 mm; 8 h. Inv. 18248-2. P. Margaryan, gift, 1970. Said to be found in Antioch. Same obv. and rev. as preceding. Y. Nercessian, Armenian Counterfeit Coin Detection, ANJ XVIII, 1992, p. 30, Pl. II, 12.

28. AR; 2.00 g; 23.4 mm; 12 h. Inv. 17939-59. P. Bedoukian, gift, 1965. *Օճ.* +Ենիոն ԹԱԳԱԱ ԱԱԾՆ ՀԱՅՈՆՅ Հարձ. +ԿԱՐՈՌԻԹԲՆ ԱԱԾՆԾՈՅ Աս CCA, Nos. 774, 775; CAC, Nos. 1825-1828.

29. AR; 2.90 g; 23.3 mm; 12 h. Inv. 18307. Y. Ghazaryan, gift, 1970. Same obv. and rev. as preceding.

30. AR; 2.94 g; 22.8 mm; 12 h. Inv. 18602-12. H. Amatuni, gift, 1974. Same obv. and rev. as preceding.

31. AR; 3.32 g; 23.4 mm; 12 h. Inv. 18602-15. H. Amatuni, gift, 1974. Same obv. and rev. as preceding.

32. AR; 2.66 g; 22.6 mm; 12 h. Inv. 18602-16. H. Amatuni, gift, 1974. Same obv. and rev. as preceding.

33. Արծաթ, 3.10 գ, 22.6 մմ, 12 Ժ:  
Գ.հ. 18602-19: Հ. Ամատոնի, նույր, 1974:  
Նոյն դիմ. և դարձ., ինչպէս նախորդը:

34. Արծաթ, 3.04 գ, 22.7 մմ, 12 Ժ:  
Գ.հ. 18602-22: Հ. Ամատոնի, նույր, 1974:  
Նոյն դիմ. և դարձ., ինչպէս նախորդը:

35. Արծաթ, 2.91 գ, 22.8 մմ, 12 Ժ:  
Գ.հ. 18602-25: Հ. Ամատոնի, նույր, 1974:  
Նոյն դիմ. և դարձ., ինչպէս նախորդը:

36. Արծաթ, 2.90 գ, 23.3 մմ, 1 Ժ:  
Գ.հ. 18981-45: Գ. Մազլումյան, նույր, 1979:  
Նոյն դիմ. և դարձ., ինչպէս նախորդը:

37. Արծաթ, 2.66 գ, 23.4 մմ, 1 Ժ:  
Գ.հ. 18981-46: Գ. Մազլումյան, նույր, 1979:  
Նոյն դիմ. և դարձ., ինչպէս նախորդը:

38. Արծաթ, 2.86 գ, 22.9 մմ, 12 Ժ:  
Գ.հ. 19032-26: Գ. Մազլումյան, նույր, 1980:  
Նոյն դիմ. և դարձ., ինչպէս նախորդը:

39. Արծաթ, 3.18 գ, 23.2 մմ, 12 Ժ:  
Գ.հ. 19264-4: Հ. Յարութիննան, նույր, 1983:  
Նոյն դիմ. և դարձ., ինչպէս նախորդը:

40. Արծաթ, 2.96 գ, 23.4 մմ, 12 Ժ:  
Գ.հ. 19863-1: Հ. Դեմիրճյան, նույր, 1996:  
Նոյն դիմ. և դարձ., ինչպէս նախորդը:

41. Արծաթ, 2.48 գ, 22.6 մմ, 12 Ժ:  
Գ.հ. 19863-3: Հ. Դեմիրճյան, նույր, 1996:  
Նոյն դիմ. և դարձ., ինչպէս նախորդը:

42. Արծաթ, 2.30 գ, 22.3 մմ, 12 Ժ:  
Գ.հ. 19863-6: Հ. Դեմիրճյան, նույր, 1996:  
Նոյն դիմ. և դարձ., ինչպէս նախորդը:

43. Արծաթ, 2.96 գ, 23.4 մմ, 12 Ժ:  
Գ.հ. 19863-7: Հ. Դեմիրճյան, նույր, 1996:  
Նոյն դիմ. և դարձ., ինչպէս նախորդը:

44. Արծաթ, 2.28 գ, 23.3 մմ, 12 Ժ:  
Գ.հ. 19863-8: Հ. Դեմիրճյան, նույր, 1996:  
Նոյն դիմ. և դարձ., ինչպէս նախորդը:

45. Արծաթ, 2.40 գ, 23.1 մմ, 12 Ժ:  
Գ.հ. 19863-10: Հ. Դեմիրճյան, նույր, 1996:  
Նոյն դիմ. և դարձ., ինչպէս նախորդը:

46. Արծաթ, 2.17 գ, 23.2 մմ, 12 Ժ:  
Գ.հ. 19863-11: Հ. Դեմիրճյան, նույր, 1996:  
Նոյն դիմ. և դարձ., ինչպէս նախորդը:

47. Արծաթ, 2.40 գ, 23.0 մմ, 12 Ժ:  
Գ.հ. 19863-12: Հ. Դեմիրճյան, նույր, 1996:  
Նոյն դիմ. և դարձ., ինչպէս նախորդը:

33. AR; 3.10 g; 22.6 mm; 12 h.  
Inv. 18602-19. H. Amatuni, gift, 1974.  
Same obv. and rev. as preceding.

34. AR; 3.04 g; 22.7 mm; 12 h.  
Inv. 18602-22. H. Amatuni, gift, 1974.  
Same obv. and rev. as preceding.

35. AR; 2.91 g; 22.8 mm; 12 h.  
Inv. 18602-25. H. Amatuni, gift, 1974.  
Same obv. and rev. as preceding.

36. AR; 2.90 g; 23.3 mm; 1 h.  
Inv. 18981-45. G. Mazlumyan, gift, 1979.  
Same obv. and rev. as preceding.

37. AR; 2.66 g; 23.4 mm; 1 h.  
Inv. 18981-46. G. Mazlumyan, gift, 1979.  
Same obv. and rev. as preceding.

38. AR; 2.86 g; 22.9 mm; 12 h.  
Inv. 19032-26. G. Mazlumyan, gift, 1980.  
Same obv. and rev. as preceding.

39. AR; 3.18 g; 23.2 mm; 12 h.  
Inv. 19264-4. H. Harutyunyan, gift, 1983.  
Same obv. and rev. as preceding.

40. AR; 2.96 g; 23.4 mm; 12 h.  
Inv. 19863-1. H. Demirchyan, gift, 1996.  
Same obv. and rev. as preceding.

41. AR; 2.48 g; 22.6 mm; 12 h.  
Inv. 19863-3. H. Demirchyan, gift, 1996.  
Same obv. and rev. as preceding.

42. AR; 2.30 g; 22.3 mm; 12 h.  
Inv. 19863-6. H. Demirchyan, gift, 1996.  
Same obv. and rev. as preceding.

43. AR; 2.96 g; 23.4 mm; 12 h.  
Inv. 19863-7. H. Demirchyan, gift, 1996.  
Same obv. and rev. as preceding.

44. AR; 2.28 g; 23.3 mm; 12 h.  
Inv. 19863-8. H. Demirchyan, gift, 1996.  
Same obv. and rev. as preceding.

45. AR; 2.40 g; 23.1 mm; 12 h.  
Inv. 19863-10. H. Demirchyan, gift, 1996.  
Same obv. and rev. as preceding.

46. AR; 2.17 g; 23.2 mm; 12 h.  
Inv. 19863-11. H. Demirchyan, gift, 1996.  
Same obv. and rev. as preceding.

47. AR; 2.40 g; 23.0 mm; 12 h.  
Inv. 19863-12. Demirchyan, gift, 1996.  
Same obv. and rev. as preceding.

48. Արծաթ, 2.52 գ, 23.1 մմ, 12 ժ:  
Գ.հ. 19863-14: Հ. Դեմիրչյան, նույն, 1996:  
Մոյն դիմ. և դարձ., ինչպէս նախորդը:

49. Արծաթ, 2.53 գ, 23.8 մմ, 1 ժ:  
Գ.հ. 19249-3: Գ. Մազլումյան, նույն, 1982:  
Մոյն դիմ. և դարձ., ինչպէս նախորդը:

50. Արծաթ, 2.81 գ, 23.0 մմ, 12 ժ:  
Գ.հ. 20151-3: Ս. Խաչատրյան, նույն, 2011:  
Մոյն դիմ. և դարձ., ինչպէս նախորդը:

51. Գորշ մնատաղ, 3.37 գ, 23.4 մմ, 12 ժ:  
Գ.հ. 18248-1: Պ. Մարգարյան, նույն, 1970:  
Մոյն դիմ. և դարձ., ինչպէս նախորդը:

52. Գորշ մնատաղ, 3.40 գ, 23.8 մմ, 12 ժ:  
Գ.հ. 18533-4: Հ. Դեմիրչյան, նույն, 1972:  
Մոյն դիմ. և դարձ., ինչպէս նախորդը:

53. Գորշ մնատաղ, 3.40 գ, 23.7 մմ, 12 ժ:  
Գ.հ. 18533-5: Հ. Դեմիրչյան, նույն, 1972:  
Մոյն դիմ. և դարձ., ինչպէս նախորդը:

54. Գորշ մնատաղ, 3.30 գ, 23.5 մմ, 12 ժ:  
Գ.հ. 19984-3: Լ. Մինասյան, նույն, 2001:  
Մոյն դիմ. և դարձ., ինչպէս նախորդը:

Տիպ 2  
Type 2

55. Արծաթ, 2.31 գ, 22.8 մմ, 12 ժ:  
Գ.հ. 18389-218: Ա. Պոլածյան, նույն, 1971:  
Դիմ. +Լենոն ԹԱԳԱԽՈՐԴԱՅՈՅՑ  
Դարձ. +ԿԱՐՈՎՈՒԹԲՆ ԱՍՏՈՒՇՈՅՑ

Y. Nericessian, Armenian Counterfeit Coin Detection, ANJ XVIII, 1992, p. 31, Pl. II, 9. L. Saryan, Two Counterfeit Armenian Trams from eBay and Other Pitfalls of the Internet, ANJ 33, 2007, p. 63, Fig. 2.

56. Արծաթ, 3.02 գ, 22.0 մմ, 11 ժ:  
Գ.հ. 18798-8: Գ. Մազլումյան, նույն, 1977:  
Մոյն դիմ. և դարձ., ինչպէս նախորդը:

57. Արծաթ, 2.10 գ, 22.4 մմ, 12 ժ:  
Գ.հ. 18981-134: Գ. Մազլումյան, նույն, 1977:  
Մոյն դիմ. և դարձ., ինչպէս նախորդը:

58. Արծաթ, 2.44 գ, 21.8 մմ, 12 ժ:  
Գ.հ. 19334-1: Բ. Թուժոյնյան, նույն, 1984:  
Մոյն դիմ. և դարձ., ինչպէս նախորդը:

Յօրինակ տիպներ արծաթի «առնագ»  
Silver dangs with invented types

59. Արծաթ, 8.20 գ, 26.0 մմ, 11 ժ:  
Գ.հ. 17976-63: Լ. Բուդումյան, զնում, 1966:  
Դիմ. +ԾԻՆԵԱԼ Ի ԲԱԿԱՐԱ Ի ՍԻՒ  
Դարձ. +Լենոն ԹԱԳԱԽՈՐԴԱՅՈՅՑ

60. Արծաթ, 5.79 գ, 25.0 մմ, 12 ժ:  
Գ.հ. 15948: Ն. Սիլիկյան, զնում, 1948:  
Մոյն դիմ. և դարձ., ինչպէս նախորդը:

59. AR; 8.20 g; 26.0 mm; 11 h.  
Inv. 17976-63. L. Budumyan, purchase, 1966.  
Obv. +ԾԻՆԵԱԼ Ի ԲԱԿԱՐԱ Ի ՍԻՒ  
Rev. +Լենոն ԹԱԳԱԽՈՐԴԱՅՈՅՑ

60. AR; 5.79 g; 25.0 mm; 12 h.  
Inv. 15948. N. Siliikyan, purchase, 1948.  
Same obv. And rev. as preceding

## ՌՈՒՍԱՍՏԱՆԻ ՄԵԴԱԼ ՆՈՒԻՐՈՒԱԾ ՀԱՅԿԱԿԱՆ ՑԵՂԱՍՊԱՆՈՒԹԵԱՆ ՅԻՇԱՏԱԿԻՆ

Հայերի զանգուածային ջարդի տարելիցը, կազմակերպուած 1915 թ. և նախապէս մշակուած Օսմանէան թուրքիայի կազմակերպութեան ծրագրով, ամէն տարի նշուած է ոչ միայն Հայուածանական, նաև արտասահմանէան շատ երկրորդում: Աշխարհում չտեսնուած ցեղասպանութեան գործադրութեան հետանքնով ոչնչացնելու էր 15 միլիոն հայ, դատարկուել էին արևմտեան Հայուածանի հայրակակ քաղաքներն ու գիւղերը:

Առաջին զոհերը դարձան արևմտահայ մտաւորականութեան ճանացուած ներկայացուցիչները: 1915-ին և յաջորդ տարիներին զոհւեցին հազարից աւելի գիտութեան և մշակութի ճանացուած որդիքները, չէին խնայում նոյնիսկ Նախանց, ովքեր արժանիներ ունեին կառավառութեան պիտակ:

Ողբերգական իրադարձութիւնների 99-րդ տարելիիցի առիջով ուզում եմ ծանօթացնել ընթերցողներին լիշտարժան մեղալի հետ, որը արտադրուել է Ծովասատանում 1915 թ. և նույրուել է հետինակին 1965 թ. Յունուարին իր մոսկվիենան ծանօթենից մէկի կողմէից:

Բ. Կողմ. Պատուի բուած է խաչքար, որի շուրջ բոլորակի կան գրութիւններ հայերէն և ոռուերէն էկանեան: ՊԱ ԽՐԱՆԻ ԳՈԾՈՂ ԱՐՄԱՆՅ. ՏԵՐ ԿԵՑՈ ԶԱԿԱՅ:

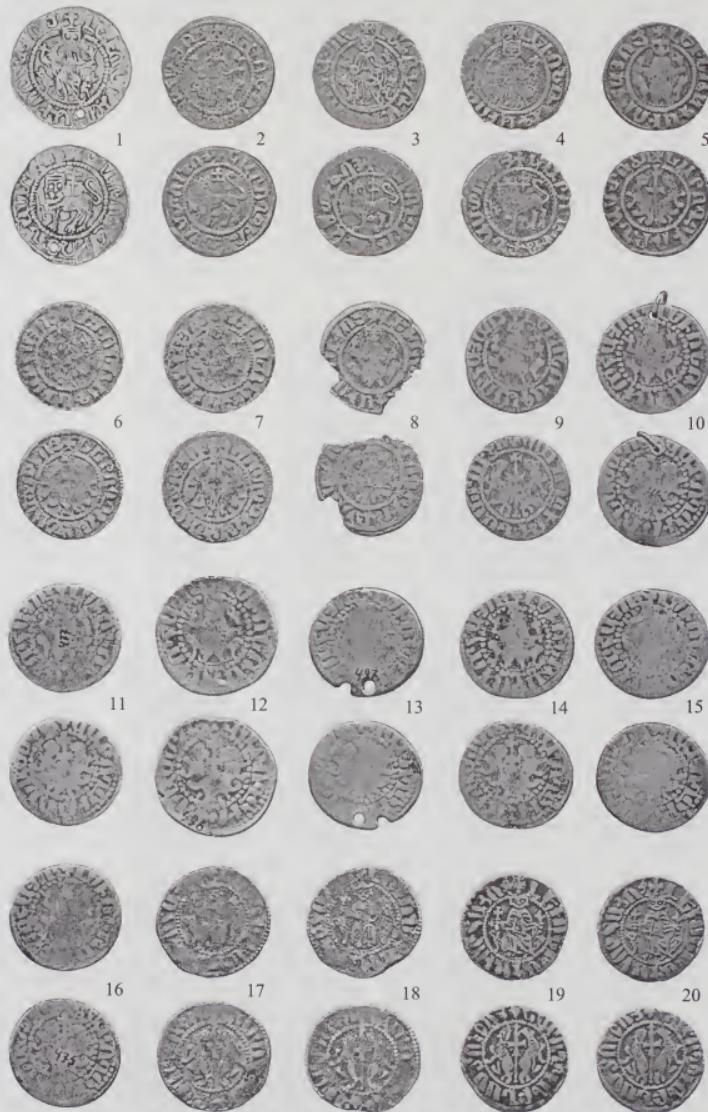
Յայտնի է նշուած շքամեղալի չորս տեսակը՝ Աեղանի և կրծքի Նրանցից իրաքանչերը արտադրուել է արծաթից և սուկճրուած բրոնզից. Աեղանի շքամեղալի տրամագիծը 32 մմ է, իսկ կրծքանանինը՝ 23 մմ:

Շքամեղալները թողարկուել են ուսուաստանեան ընկերութեան դրամագիտութեան հաւաքորդների խմբակի միջամտութեամբ Կետրոգրադի «Ա. Ժամանակ» մասնագիտական ընկերութեան մօս։ Կազմականենք պատրաստաւած էին հաւանարար քանդակագործ Մալիշեակի կողմից, որու սպառարար Ա. Ֆակորին պատուի էին էր կատարուում։

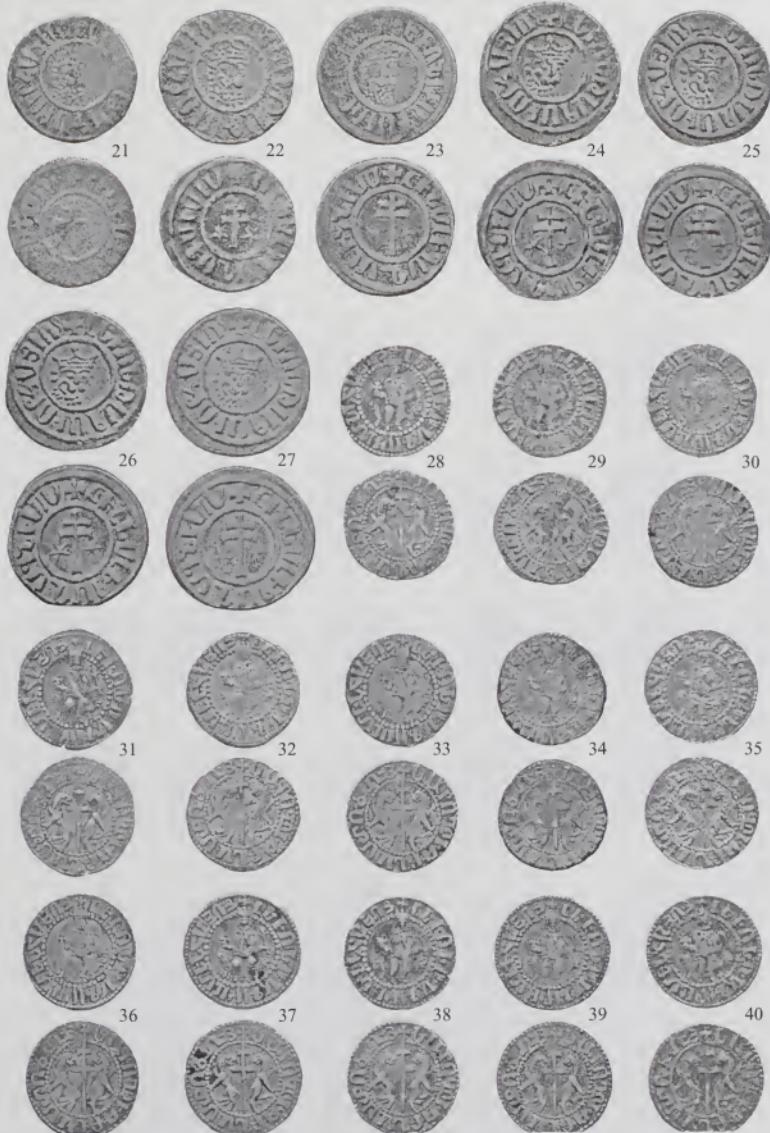
Ժամանակին շքամեղալները կարող էին ձեռք բերել իւրաքանչյւր ցանկացող իսկ նրանց մաճարքից ստառած ենամուսու օստառառողջւթեմ էր բառեառողջական նաևառակների:

Աղնեղալից եկած այս նիւթերը այսօր պահուում են թանգարաններուում և մասնաւոր հաւաքածոներուում, բայց, անշաղութ ներկայացնուում են պատուական ու դրամագիտական արժեքները Առաջին հերթին սա իրական ապացոյց է ոռու ժողովրդի մտահոգութեան, որը անտարբեր չի մնանակի հաւ ժողովրդի պահպանութեանը:

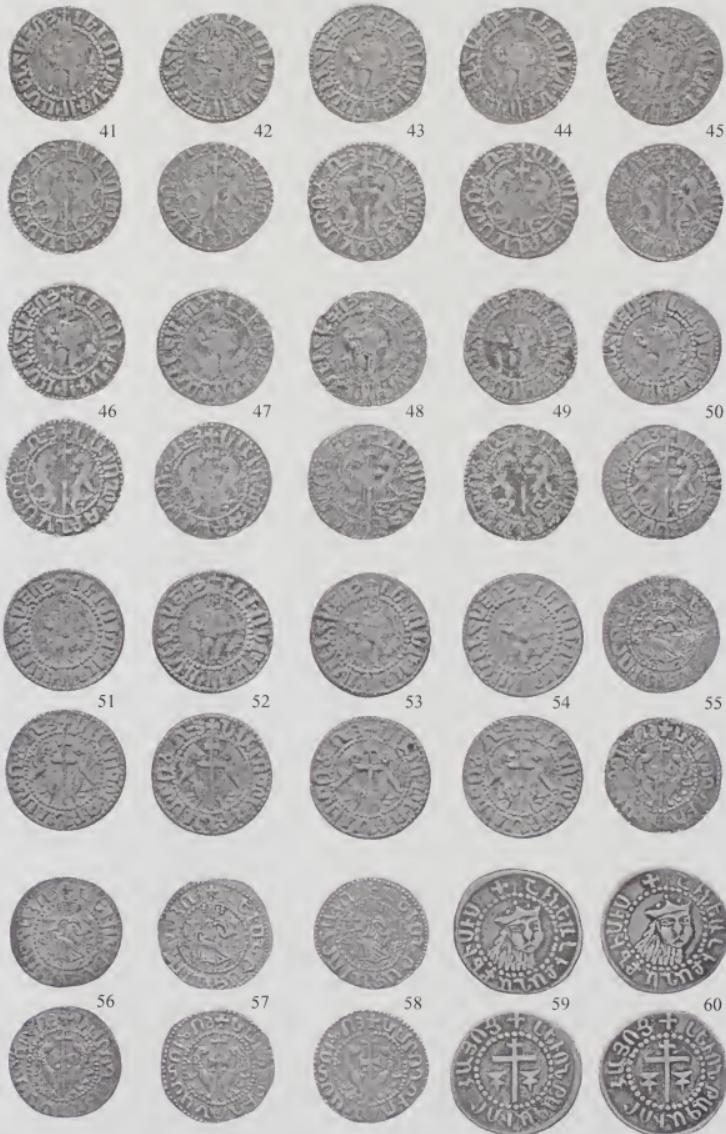




Ռուբէն Վարդանեան - Ruben Vardanyan, Լևոն I-ի կեղծ դրամներ - Counterfeit coins of Levon I



Ռուբէն Վարդանեան –Ruben Vardanyan, Լևոն I-ի կեղծ դրամներ՝ Counterfeit coins of Levon I



Ռուբէն Վարդանեան-Ruben Vardanyan, Լևոն I-ի կեղծ դրամներ-Counterfeit coins of Levon I

## DR. PAUL Z. BEDOUKIAN HONORED BY ARMENIAN COIN COLLECTORS IN 1974

The "Armenian Coin Club" was founded on February 27, 1971 by Wartan Gewenian, George Marderosian, and Yeghia Nercessian. Later, the name of the Club was changed to the "Armenian Numismatic and Artifact Society," and on December 7, 1974, it was finally changed to the "Armenian Numismatic Society."

At that time, our reference books for medieval Armenian coins were *Classification of Roupenian Coins* by Fr. Clement Sibilian and *Coinage of Cilician Armenia* by Dr. Paul Z. Bedoukian. The first book was in Armenian and the latter was long out of print. On August 26, 1971, Mr. Y. T. Nercessian, club secretary, was asked by the membership to contact Dr. Bedoukian and find out if his book could be purchased from some bookstore unknown to us. Since his address was unavailable, a letter was mailed to him in care of the American Numismatic Society of New York, where Bedoukian had been a member for a few decades. Bedoukian replied by mail on September 6, 1971, congratulating the establishment of the Armenian Coin Club. He wrote us that the Armenian version of his book was available for purchase from the Mekhitarist Congregation in Vienna (Austria) and mailed us a copy of his book as a gift. On September 29, 1971, the Armenian Coin Club elected Paul Bedoukian as an honorary member.

Since that date until his death, our correspondence with the late Dr. Paul Z. Bedoukian has been voluminous. Unfortunately, according to the late Mrs. Victoria Bedoukian, Paul's wife, most of the Bedoukian notes and files were destroyed when their basement was flooded in a storm. (Mrs. Bedoukian revealed this information on January 28, 2002, when she was contacted by telephone to request Dr. Bedoukian's worksheets and photographs which could have been used when *Selected Numismatic Studies II* was being prepared for publication.)

Bedoukian needed to travel to Los Angeles in connection with his perfumery business, and suggested a meeting. On May 27, 1974, he wrote, "Sept. 13-14 seems to be a good date for a get together. We will confirm it later..." On July 25 we replied to his letter and invited to stay at our home while he was in the Los Angeles area.



Fig. 1. Dr. Paul Z. Bedoukian and Mr. Yeghia Nercessian.

He preferred, however, to stay at a hotel in downtown Los Angeles. A couple of days prior to the meeting date, my wife and I drove to his hotel and met him personally for the first time. In the early afternoon of September 14, I picked him up from his hotel. On the way to our home he wanted to stop and visit the Armenian Martyrs Memorial Monument located in the city of Montebello. He was photographed at the monument and one of these pictures appears in this writer's article relating to the Monument (Fig. 2).<sup>1</sup>

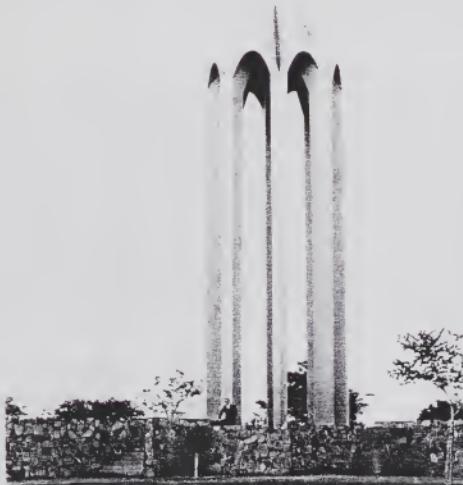


Fig. 2. Dr. Paul Z. Bedoukian below Armenian Martyrs Memorial Monument.

When we arrived our home it was still early, and dinner would not be ready for a while. He learned that the Armenian Mesrobian School is located extremely close to our home and expressed a desire to tour the facility and visit the classes. (The Armenian school which he had attended in Bulgaria had the same name.) Of course, it was my pleasure to be his guide. This was the school where my children were attending, and it was also the location where our Club held its monthly meetings. Although no students were present (it was Saturday), we visited each classroom and toured the whole campus. At this time, while examining the school surroundings, I asked him a question: "Paul, you write an article in English. Why do you then write the same article in Armenian?" He turned around and replied, "If I don't write in Armenian, there will be no Armenian numismatic literature and no Armenian numismatics!"

<sup>1</sup> Y. T. Nercessian, "Lapel Pins of Armenian Martyrs Memorial Monument in Montebello, California," *Armenian Numismatic Studies* [I] (Los Angeles, 2000), pp. 601-612, see p. 609, Fig. 5; reprinted from *Armenian Numismatic Journal*, Ser. I, Vol. XXV (1999), No. 3, pp. 39-45, see p. 44, Fig. 5; also in *A Short History of Armenian Martyrs Memorial Monument in Montebello, California* (Montebello, 2007), 16 pp., see p. 9, Fig. 5.

*Dr. Paul Z. Bedoukian Honored by Armenian Coin Collectors*

After tasty lamb shish Kebab dinner with trimmings, it was nearly time for our meeting. All members residing in the Southern California and the rest of the world, as well as Mr. Osheen Keshishian, editor of *The Armenian Observer* (a weekly Armenian newspaper), were invited to this special meeting.



Fig. 3. Members and guests at the September 14, 1974 gathering. Standing, left to right, Mrs. Mary Gewenian, Mr. Wartan Gewenian, Mr. George Marderosian†, Dr. Paul Z. Bedoukian†, Mr. George Sarkissian†, Mr. Yeghia Nercessian, Mrs. Carl Mahakian, Col. Carl Mahakian (USMC retired), Mr. Luther Eskijian†, Dr. Paul Carnig†, Mr. Hagop Muradliyan; seated, left to right, Mrs. Anahid Nercessian, unknown lady, Mrs. Hagop Muradliyan, Mrs. Ann Eskijian. Photo courtesy of *The Armenian Observer*.

A brief ceremony was held during the meeting. We had received a letter from the late Dr. Khatchatour A. Mousheghian, numismatic curator of the State History Museum of Armenia in Yerevan, which was read by the secretary. In this letter (dated July 1, 1974) Mousheghian praised Dr. Bedoukian for internationalizing the study of Armenian numismatics. Bedoukian's extensive researches and untiring studies introduced Armenian numismatics to Western scholars. By 1974, his numismatic publications numbered nearly eighty articles and books. Most of the articles appear in American Numismatic Society *Museum Notes* and many other prominent Western European and Armenian periodicals.

In 1962, the American Numismatic Society published Bedoukian's *Coinage of Cilician Armenia*, a monumental treatise which was the first scholarly work of its kind to make Armenian coinage accessible to non-Armenian collectors and scholars. Within a year it was translated into Armenian and published in 1963 by Mekhitarist Fathers in Vienna. It is very interesting that a chapter of this book, "Trade and Commerce of Cilician Armenia," was

printed as an article in *Armenian Review* (1973), and its Armenian translation as a booklet (1973) by the Mekhitarist Fathers.

To Bedoukian's untiring pen we owe "Coinage of the Artaxiad Dynasty of Armenia," a pioneering work, published in the *Museum Notes* in 1968. It was translated into Armenian and printed in *Handes Amsorya* in 1968 and 1969, and as book in 1969 by the Vienna Mekhitarists.

Ancient gold, silver, and copper coins struck by the Romans carry historical references to Armenia. These small metallic monuments have intrigued and kept busy generations of Armenian scholars. Bedoukian catalogued and published them in Armenian under the title of "Roman Coins and Medallions Relating to Armenia," in *Handes Amsorya* in 1969 through 1971, and then as a book in 1971 by the Vienna Mekhitarist Fathers.

Since Bedoukian's book on Cilician Armenian coins was out of print, he conceived the idea of publishing a summarized handbook under the title of "Medieval Armenian Coins." This was published as an article in *Revue des Études Arméniennes* and then immediately released as a book in Paris (1971). The book was handy and inexpensive, and was an instant sellout.

In 1972 Bedoukian published an Armenian article in *Haigazian Armenological Review* on an important hoard of 636 takvorins of Gisdantin III, Levon the Usurper, and Gisdantin IV of Cilician Armenia. He classified these debased silver coins based on the completeness of their Armenian inscriptions. By comparing the coin dies and studying the specific gravity of coins from this hoard, Bedoukian demonstrated that Levon the Usurper had succeeded Gisdantin III. Additionally, he discovered that the specific gravity of the silver coins of Gisdantin III is higher than 9.50, whereas that of Gisdantin IV is lower than 9.30. Prior to this publication, it was extremely difficult to distinguish between the takvorins of kings Gisdantin III and Gisdantin IV.

These works created interest in Armenian coins and brought Armenian numismatics to a wide audience. He placed the classification of Armenian numismatics on a scientific basis and his articles shed new light on many aspects of Armenian history. For all these outstanding achievements, Dr. Paul Z. Bedoukian was awarded the gold lapel pin of the Armenian Martyrs Memorial Monument of Montebello, California.

During the meeting, several attendees enjoyed side conversation with Bedoukian. The program of the evening, however, was a question and answer session. He was asked why he used aluminum foil rubbing coin pictures for the plates of *Coinage of Cilician Armenia*. He described his experience in writing this book, stating that he did not know that the printed pictures in the plates would be like that, and the people at the American Numismatic Society did not say anything to him about the quality of the plates prepared from coin photographs of aluminum foil impressions.

He also expressed his desire to prepare a study on the coinage of the Artaxiads of Armenia. Very patiently, he explained that many different types of coins were still missing to complete this series of numismatics of ancient Armenia. He pointed out that Artavasdes II, the son of Tigranes II the Great, ruled for twenty-two years after he inherited the throne

from his father. At that time Armenia was a wealthy kingdom. Yet we have only three types of coins from Artavasdes II, whereas from kings like Tigranes III or Tigranes IV who ruled for shorter periods, we have more than ten different varieties. Historic Armenian land is occupied by the Turks, and remains uninhabited by her native Armenian children. No organized excavation is taking place. Therefore, it is to be assumed that all or most of the coins still remain in the soil of historic Armenia and wait to be unearthed. We hope that this day will not be far away.



Fig. 4. Club treasurer Mr. Wartan Gewenian, listening an explanation from Dr. Paul Z. Bedoukian who has placed his newly received Armenian Martyrs Memorial Monument gold pin on his lapel. Photo courtesy of *The Armenian Observer*.

An attractive tasty appetizer and dessert table was set by my wife for refreshments. Mr. Osheen Keshishian took some group pictures and very kindly published some of them in his newspaper along with our press release (Figs. 3 and 4).<sup>2</sup> Unfortunately, at that time we could not publish it ourselves since the *Armenian Numismatic Journal* did not exist until 1975.

Upon the conclusion of the program, there was a long line of collectors eager to receive Bedoukian's autograph on the books which he penned. In addition to Club members and the press, there were some friends who were eager to meet this world renowned Armenian numismatist. It was a memorable evening for myself and my family. It was a special day in the history of Armenian coin collectors who met Bedoukian for the first time, and it will remain in their memory for many years to come.

After returning to his home in Wilton, Bedoukian wrote (September 28): "Vacation is over, we have come home and back to the old grind. Many thanks for the reception accorded me and I need hardly tell you how much I enjoyed meeting not only our Club members but also your charming wife and family..."

Y. T. Nercessian

<sup>2</sup> Y. T. Nercessian, "Dr. Paul Bedoukian Honored by ANAS in L. A.," *The Armenian Observer*, Vol. IV (Oct. 9, 1974), No. 43, p. 8, illus.; "Dr. Bedoukian, Numismatist, Honored by ANAS," *The Armenian Reporter*, (Oct. 3, 1974), p. 9.



Fig. 5. Dr. Paul Z. Bedoukian examining a book in Nercessian's study room (July 1982).

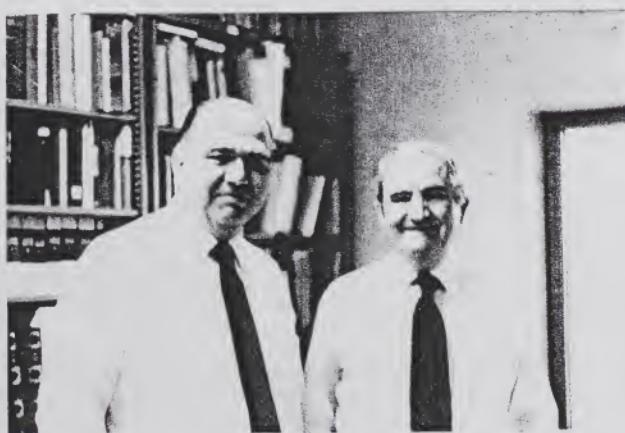


Fig. 6. Prof. Richard G. Hovannessian and Dr. Paul Z. Bedoukian (UCLA, July 1982).

## ARTAXIAS III AND A NUMISMATIC ENIGMA

FRANK L. KOVACS

PLATE 4

In AD 18 Germanicus, on behalf of the emperor Tiberius, crowned Zeno as King Artaxias of Armenia (Tacitus *Ann.* 2, 56). Lucius Antonius "Zeno" was a son of Polemo I, king of Pontus (ca. 37-8 BC) and Queen Pythodoris, who succeeded her husband (ca. 8 BC-AD 23/4) (Thonemann 2004, 146). An enthusiastic Armenophile with natural appeal to the Armenian people, Zeno-Artaxias enjoyed an apparently unchallenged reign until his death in AD 35.

The only numismatic evidence to this point for Artaxias's reign has been a pair of silver coins from Caesarea in Cappadocia bearing the portrait of Germanicus on the obverse, and on the reverse Germanicus crowning Artaxias (didrachm, *RPC* 1, 3629, and drachm, 3630). These coins may have been either issued contemporaneously or as later commemoratives during the reign of Claudius (AD 41-54) (*RPC* 1, p. 554). In any case, they are not considered issues of the Kingdom of Armenia, leaving numismatists to speculate that Artaxias issued no coins of his own (*RPC* 1, 571; Nercessian 1995, 88). The following new coins correct the numismatic record.

### Coins of Artaxias III

1. AE tetrachalkon. Average wt. (1 ex.) 10.74 g; die axis 10:00.<sup>1</sup>  
Obv.: Armenian tiara with five peaks l., star on r., Δ below on l. (legend from 11:00  $\curvearrowright$ ) ΘΕΟΙCCEΒАСТОIC KAICAPI KAI ΙΟΥΛΙΑ. [beaded] border.  
Rev.: Horse prancing r. (legend from 12:00  $\curvearrowright$ ) [BAC]АРТАΞΙΟΥ ΤΟΥΕΚΒΠΟΛΕ. KAI ΠΥΘ[ΟΔΩΡΙ]. beaded border.  
KV coll. (pl. 4,1).
2. AE tetrachalkon. Average wt. (3 ex.) 9.63 g; die axis: 7:30.  
Obv.: Armenian tiara with five peaks l., star on r., Δ below. (legend from 11:00  $\curvearrowright$ ) ΘΕΟΙCCEΒАСТОIC KAICAPI KAI ΙΟΥΔΑ. [beaded] border.  
Rev.: Horse prancing l. (legend from 11:00  $\curvearrowright$ ) B[AC АРТАΞΙΟΥ] ΤΟΥΕΒ\*Β ΠΟΛΕ KAIΠΝΘΟΔΩΡΙ. beaded border.  
\*B an engraving error for K, an anticipatory dittography.  
a) KV coll. (ex Gorny 212, 5 Mar 2013, lot 2264): 12.97 g (pl. 4,2a); b) FK coll.: 7.20 g, 7:30 (pl. 4,2b) c) FK coll.: 8.73 g, 7:30.

The reverse legend B[ΑΣ](ιλεως) АРТАΞΙΟΥ ΤΟΥ ΕΚ Β(ασιλεως) ΠΟΛΕ(μωνος) KAI ΠΥΘΟΔΩΡΙ(δος), "Of King Artaxias son of<sup>2</sup> King Polemo and Pythodoris," clearly identifies the issuing authority as Artaxias III.<sup>3</sup>

Note: Partially preserved Greek letters are underlined.

<sup>1</sup> The die axis given is for the horse shown prancing. If the horse was intended to be rearing the die axes for nos. 1 and 2 could be 12:00 and 6:00 respectively. This die alignment seems more logical in the context of Roman provincial coins.

<sup>2</sup> According to Peter Thonemann (personal communication): "The use of ὁ ἐκ/ἡ ἐκ in the sense of νιός/θυγάτηρ is widely paralleled in the official titulature of Near Eastern monarchs around the turn of the era" citing Queen Dynamis of the Bosporan kingdom (CIRB 31; cf. CIRB 979), her son Aspourgos

The obverse inscription “To the Divine Augusti Caesar and Julia” pays homage to the divine Tiberius and Livia.<sup>4</sup> The type, an Armenian tiara, symbolizes kingship as bestowed by the authority of Rome. The star, normally in the center panel of the Armenian tiara, is placed behind it as a separate symbol, perhaps to emphasize kingship and country as distinct concepts. The Δ in the field most likely represents the denomination “four” (chalkoi). The designs warrant a few comments. The Armenian tiara as a main type is unusual, but has precedent on a tetrachalkon of Erato’s sole reign (ca. AD 13-15) where the tiara is superimposed over a crossed bow and arrow.<sup>5</sup> (pl. 4,A) Earlier variations of this type are found on the coins of Roman conquerors, such as Mark Antony in 36 BC (Crawford 539/1), or on the 20 BC issue of Augustus, celebrating Tiberius’s victory (*RIC* 1,515-517). As a reverse type the Armenian tiara appears on an unidentified Julio-Claudian bronze of probable Armenian origin.<sup>6</sup> (pl. 4,B).

The horse, a normal and expected type, is a reference to the country’s most important industry as well as to its mounted military.

The two newly identified coins of Artaxias now allow us to understand a number of hitherto unidentifiable coins with enigmatic legends<sup>7</sup> which are degenerated imitations of no. 1.

### Imitations of Artaxias III

#### Early Imitation

3. AE tetrachalkon. Imitation of no. 1 above. Average wt. (1 ex) 8.43 g.
  - O1. Obv.: Armenian tiara with five peaks l., star on r., large Δ below on l. (legend ↗ 12:00): **ΛΒΟΙΔΙΚΑΠΙΑΚ[Τ]ΟΙΚΙΑΙΑΙΒΑΓ[** [beaded] border.
  - R1. Rev.: Horse prancing r. (legend from 12:00 ↗):  
**ΒΑΙΝΟΟΛΣΚΟΠΛΟΚΛΙΠΝΟΟΔΔΙΠΙ**. beaded border.
  - a) FK (pl. 4, 3a); 12:00. b) private coll. (pl. 4,3b).

The early imitation is close artistically to nos. 1 and 2: the tiara retains the five short peaks of the original and the star retains the size and eight rays; the horse has a relatively

(CIRB 40), the Cappadocian king Ariobarzanes II (OGIS 354-5, with Michels 2009, 141-3), and Antiochos I of Commagene (IGLS I 1, with Facella 2005). Thonemann notes further: “The coinages of Kamnaskires IV and V of Elymais carry (with variants) the title βασιλέως Καμνασκίρου τοῦ ΕΓ βασιλέως Καμνασκίρου (Alram 1986: nos. 458-66); the letters ΕΓ are usually understood as representing the Greek word ἐγ (γόνου) (thus e.g. Callataj and Lorber 2011), but this abbreviation would be completely unparalleled, and it is surely preferable to understand this simply as τοῦ ἐγ βασιλέως Καμνασκίρου, ‘son of King Kamnaskires’, with the *kappa* nasalised to *gamma* before the *beta* of βασιλέως (extremely common in inscriptions of this period).”

<sup>3</sup> Tacitus *Ann.* 2.56 points out that the throne name was based on Artaxata as the city of coronation.

<sup>4</sup> For the cult of Tiberius and Livia in the east see Bennett 2007, 211.

<sup>5</sup> Unpublished tetrachalkon of year 3. Bust of Erato r., BA – EP / tiara over crossed bow and arrow, E – Γ. 19.5 mm; 7.68g; 6:00. FK coll.

<sup>6</sup> RPC S2-1-5488.1 (ex Righetti, now in FK coll., since conserved). Jugate busts r., no legend apparent / tiara r., ΚΑΙ ΤΙΒΕΡΙΟΣ Κ. [...]; RPC 1,3860 and 3862. Two specimens in private collections were reportedly found in Armenia.

<sup>7</sup> The first example known was acquired in 1984, followed in 1988 by GHirsch 163, lot 509 (not Münzen und Medaillen). See Saryan 1991, 112.

naturalistic appearance. The obverse legend is little changed from the original, apart from being written retrograde, CEB is now CIB, the K of KAICAPI has become Γ, and the last two letters of ΙΟΥΛΙΑ are dropped. The following table shows the complete thirty letter legend of the Artaxias issues no. 1 compared to the twenty-eight letter legend of the earliest imitation no. 3.

Table 1. Obverse legends of no. 1 and earliest imitation no. 3, retrograde sequence reversed for comparison.

no. 1	Θ	Ε	Ο	Ι	Ϲ	Ϲ	Ε	Β	Α	Ϲ	Τ	Ο	Ι	Ϲ	Κ	Α	Ι	Ϲ	Α	Ρ	Ι	Κ	Α	Ι	Ι	Ο	Υ	Λ	Α	
no. 3	Ο	Β	Ι	Ϲ	Ϲ	Ϲ	Ϲ	Ϲ	Ϲ	Ϲ	Ϲ	Ϲ	Ϲ	Ϲ	Ϲ	Ϲ	Ϲ	Ϲ	Ϲ	Ϲ	Ϲ	Ϲ	Ϲ	Ϲ	Ϲ	Ϲ	Ϲ	Ϲ	Ϲ	Ϲ

The reverse legend is considerably different, with “Artaxias” replaced by ΒΟΟΔ, though the names of his father and mother remain, perhaps no longer recognized for what they were. See below for further discussion.

### Later Imitations

4. AE tetrachalkon; later imitations derived from no. 3. Average wt. (32 ex.) 10.97g; die axis varies.

Obv.: Armenian tiara with four peaks l., star on r., large Δ below on l. Legends below.

Rev.: Horse prancing r. beaded border. Legends below, from about 1:00.

The legends of no. 4, O2–4 and R2–6, are presented in tables. A - indicates no letter; a dot(.) indicates a missing or uncertain letter.

Table 2. No. 4 obverse legends.

Λ	Ο	Β	Λ	Ι	Λ	Ϲ	Ϲ	Ϲ	Ϲ	Ϲ	Ϲ	Ϲ	Ϲ	Ϲ	Ϲ	Ϲ	Ϲ	Ϲ	Ϲ	Ϲ	Ϲ	Ϲ	Ϲ	Ϲ	Ϲ	Ϲ	Ϲ	Ϲ	Ϲ
Λ	Ο	Β	Λ	Ι	Λ	Ϲ	Ϲ	Ϲ	Ϲ	Ϲ	Ϲ	Ϲ	Ϲ	Ϲ	Ϲ	Ϲ	Ϲ	Ϲ	Ϲ	Ϲ	Ϲ	Ϲ	Ϲ	Ϲ	Ϲ	Ϲ	Ϲ	Ϲ	Ϲ

\*the Λ tilts into the \ (diagonal l) resulting in a combined letter, further obscured by a die break.

04 11:00 ~	T	Ο	I	C	R	I	Α	T	Ο	I	T	Α	Ϲ	Ϲ	Ϲ	Ϲ	Ϲ	Ϲ	Ϲ	Ϲ	Ϲ	Ϲ	Ϲ	Ϲ	Ϲ	Ϲ	Ϲ	Ϲ
05 11:30 ~	T	Ο	I	C	R	I	Α	T	Ο	I	T	Α	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
06 2:00 ~	T	Ο	I	C	R	I	Α	T	Ο	I	T	Α	Ϲ	Ϲ	Ϲ	Ϲ	Ϲ	Ϲ	Ϲ	Ϲ	Ϲ	Ϲ	Ϲ	Ϲ	Ϲ	Ϲ	Ϲ	Ϲ

Table 3. No. 4 reverse legends.

R2	B	Λ	Ϲ	V	Ο	Ο	Α	Ϲ	K	-	Ο	Π	Λ	Ο	K	Λ	Ι	Π	ν	Ο	Ο	Δ	VI	P	I
R3	B	Λ	Ϲ	V	Ο	Ο	Α	Ϲ	K	-	Ο	Π	Λ	Ο	K	Ι	ν	Π	ν	Ο	Ο	Δ	VI	P	I
R4	B	Λ	Ϲ	V	Ο	Ο	Α	Ϲ	K	-	Ο	Π	Λ	Ο	K	-	ν	Π	ν	Ο	Ο	Δ	VI	P	I

### No. 4 Exemplars

O2	R2	13.52	CNG e-sale 92, lot 39.
		12.66	F&S MBS 8, lot 259.
		12.43	GHirsch 159, lot 453.
		12.33	YTN coll., Nercessian 2008, 319.
		12.21	CNG e-sale 294, lot 205.
		11.73	CNG Ebay 1 Jan 2001.
		11.69	Gorny 134, lot 1572.
		11.67	private coll. (pl. 4,4a)

O3	R3	11.85	Gorny 118, lot 1525.
		11.24	FLK coll.
		10.22	CNG e-sale 217, lot 148. (pl. 4,4b)
O4	R4	12.04	FLK coll. (pl. 4,4c)
		11.44	FLK coll.
		9.98	CNG 85, lot 61.
		9.59	M&M DE 19, lot 336.
		9.22	Gorny 186, lot 1477.
		9.31	L. Saryan coll. (Saryan 1991, 112)
O5	R5	8.64	CNG e-sale 220, lot 176. late die state.
		8.21	F&S MBS 8, lot 260. early die state.
O6	R4	13.24	CNG 82, lot 699.
		12.48	M&M DE 19, lot 335 (ex. Righetti coll.)
		11.33	Gorny 160, lot 1655.
		11.29	CNG 63, lot 602.
		11.29	CNG e-sale 115, lot 131.
		11.15	FLK coll. (pl. ___,4d)
		10.33	VB coll. 1.
		10.29	FLK coll.
		9.84	YTN coll., Nercessian 2008, 320.
		9.76	CNG 85, lot 60 (= CNG 27, 29 Sep1993, lot 35)
		9.75	FLK coll.
		9.43	VB coll. 2.
		8.39	Lanz 151, lot 524.
		-	GHirsch 163, lot 509.

The later imitations are almost cartoon-like: the horse is stiff, the tiara has four long peaks, the star is nearly as large as the tiara, and has only six rays.

### The Obverse Legends

Table 4. Earliest imitation no. 3 (O1) compared to later imitations no. 4 (O2-6)

O1*	O	O	I	O	C	I	O	C	V	B	I	C	I	O	C	I	O	A	C	I	A	K	I	A	V	O	I	A	V
O2 *	T	-	O	I	-	C	Y	I	A	-	T	O	I	-	T	A	C	V	I	C	A	-	K	I	V	-	V	O	K
O3 *	T	-	O	I	-	C	Y	I	A	-	T	O	I	-	T	A	C	V	I	C	A	-	K	I	V	-	V	O	L
O4	T	-	O	I	-	C	R	I	A	-	T	O	I	-	T	A	C	V	I	C	A	-	I	V	K	-	V	O	K
O5	T	-	O	I	-	C	R	I	A	-	T	O	.	-	T	A	.	.	A	-	I	-	-	-	V	O	K		
O6	T	O	I	-	C	R	I	A	-	T	O	I	-	T	A	C	V	I	C	A	-	I	-	-	-	V	O	K	

\*Retrograde letter sequence has been reversed for purposes of comparison.

The later imitations O2–O6 are on the surface gibberish but, in fact, retain enough of the sequence of O1 to show that they are derived from it, though abbreviated and with transposed letters. O2 and O3 have twenty-four letters, counting the blended *V* as two. O4 has twenty-three; O5 is incompletely preserved and has a die break at 3:00. The most abbreviated legend is O6, which has only twenty-one of the twenty-eight letters of the earliest imitation O1. Note that on the earliest imitation O1 the legend is written retrograde from 12:00, as are O2, O3; O4 and O5 read clockwise, beginning at 11:00–11:30; O6 also reads clockwise, but begins *TOI* at 2:30, at the position the second *TOI* appears on O4.

## Who Struck the Imitations?

Regarding who caused these imitations to be struck, one should consider that they were based on designs still in circulation, but employed substantially altered legends which no longer conveyed the original message. The possibilities seem to be that they are either 1) an official but degraded continuation of Artaxias's own coinage; 2) struck by Armenian officials after Artaxias's reign; or 3) struck by one of Artaxias's successors in the chaotic period from AD 35 to 53.

The first proposition seems most unlikely, given the debased legends and the apparently intentional removal of Artaxias's name. Therefore, the likely milieu for this imitative coinage is the chaotic seven year period immediately following the death of Artaxias in AD 35. During this period of Parthian civil war and Roman incursion no fewer than five foreign kings wore the crown of Armenia. Candidates of Rome and Parthia came and went in alternating attempts to control this strategically important territory.

The first such, Arsakes, son of the Parthian king Artabanus II (ca. AD 10–38), was placed on the throne immediately in AD 35, but assassinated shortly after by supporters of the Iberian Mithradates, with the backing of the emperor Tiberius. In AD 36 Artabanus responded by installing his second son, Orodes, as king of Armenia. Mithradates the Iberian displaced Orodes in short order, and held the throne until AD 38. At this point Mithradates was replaced by the Parthian satrap Demonax, who held Armenia until AD 42, at which time another Mithradates, perhaps the son of Mithradates the Iberian, replaced him. (Dio 58.26.1–4). The imitative coins with their garbled legends seem particularly suited to this period of political turmoil. Certainly day-to-day commerce continued, and required coins for orderly transactions. If these were these municipal coins, were their legends purposely blundered to avoid offending whichever king was temporarily in power? Or were they the product of a foreign authority whose grasp of Greek was inadequate? In support of the latter suggestion one needs only to consider the Parthian silver drachms of Artabanus II (Sell. 63.6ff) and the other kings of this period, Vardanes I (Sell. 64.31ff) and Gotarzes II (Sell. 65.33ff), to appreciate how degraded the Greek legends, even on official Parthian coinage, had become.

Comparison of the original reverse legend (nos. 1 and 2) with the earliest imitative coin, no. 3, suggests that it may have been in the time of Vologases I that the imitations were produced.

### Reverse Legends

Table 5. Nos. 1, 2, and 3 reverse legends.

no. 1-2	B	.	.	ΑΡΤΑΞΙΟΥ	Ε	Κ*	Β	Π	Ο	Λ	Ε	Κ	Α	Ι	Π	Υ	Θ	Ο	Δ	ω	Ρ	Ι		
no. 3	Β	Α	]	Β	Ο	Ο	Λ	С	Κ	-	Ο	Π	Λ	Ο	Κ	Λ	Ι	Π	Β	Ο	Δ	VI	Ρ	Ι

\*no. 2: B

There are thirty-two letters in the original legend; the imitation R1 reduces it to twenty-four, omitting the king's name "Artaxias" and ΤΟΥ replacing it with "ΒΟΟΛ", and omits the Β(asileos) before the name Polemo (transposed letters ΟΠΛΟ). Several letters are simplified (Θ and Ε are rendered Ο) but the correspondence with the original is clear. ΒΑ] ΒΟΟΛ is - in this context - a plausible writing (with transposed letters) of

“King Volo(gases)” who was king of Parthia from AD 51–78. This would suggest the imitations may have begun in AD 51 and continued into the reign of Vologases’s brother, Tiridates, whose first reign in Armenia lasted from 52/3 to 60. However, at some point Tiridates issued his own coins with intelligible Greek legends (Kovacs 2005/6, 106, no. 1). For the next two dozen years (52/3–ca. 75)—including the brief interruption of the Roman-backed Tigranes VI (60–62)—the monetary status quo is maintained. Thus, the introduction of coinage at some undetermined point in Tiridates’s first reign may provide a terminus for the imitative coinage. It is additionally possible that the imitative tiara/horse coins were revived during the interregnum of 63–66. After his “official” coronation by Nero in Rome, Tiridates returned to govern Armenia bringing with him his own Roman-made coins dated to his “official” year 1 (Kovacs 2005/6, 106, no. 2 with corrections 2007, 195).

The two examples of the early imitation no. 3 are said to have been found in Armenia Major, so perhaps they were struck at the mint of Artaxata. The later imitations no. 4 are stylistically different enough from the earliest imitations to suggest a different mint; find spots have been reported from Sophene, near Tigranokerta.<sup>8</sup>

It is clear from both the number of dies, and the surviving examples, that the output of the imitative coinage was substantial. This suggests a longer period of issue than the original coins of Artaxias, or perhaps a period of increased demand for “small change.” Further, the comparative tables above make it clear that the legends of the imitations, originally thought to be randomly degraded are, in fact, remarkably consistent from die to die and reflect the control of some central authority.

## CONCLUSIONS

The discovery of the tiara/horse coins of Artaxias III has filled a substantial gap in the Armenian numismatic series, and has provided the prototype for the enigmatic tiara/horse imitations. The latter may now be placed in their proper historical context, the chaotic period following the reign of Artaxias III. While it is tempting to regard these imitations as the earliest Arsacid coins of Armenia, questions of their exact authorship remain.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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<sup>8</sup> Saryan 1991, 112 cites a reported find spot in northern Syria.



1



2a



2b



3a



3b



4a



4b



4c



4d



A



1 (2x)



B



3b (2x)



Frank L. Kovacs, Artaxias III and a Numismatic Enigma

CNG = Classical Numismatic Group, Inc. Lancaster, PA. E-sales 92: 23 Jun 2004; 115: 25 May 2005; 217: 26 Aug 2009; 220: 14 Oct 2009; 294: 16 Jan 2013; Auctions: 63: 21 May 2003; 82: 16 Sep 2009; 85: 15 Sep 2010.

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Crawford, M.H. 1974. *Roman republican coinage*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

CIRB = Struv, Vasilii, ed. 1965. *Corpus inscriptionum regni Bosporani*. Moscow: Akademija Nauk.

F&S = Freeman & Sear. 2002. Mail Bid Sale 8 (5 Feb). Los Angeles.

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GHirsch = Gerhard Hirsch (Nachf.). Munich. Auctions: 159: 21-24 Sep 1988; 163: 27-30 Sep 1989.

Gorny = Gorny & Mosch GmbH. Giessener Münzhandlung. Munich. Auction 118: 15 Oct 2002; 134: 11 Oct 2004; 160: 9 Oct 2007; 186: 8 Mar 2008.

IGLS I = Jalabert, Louis and René Mouterde, eds. 1929. *Inscriptions grecques et latines de la Syrie. Commagène et Cyrhèstique*. Paris: Paul Geuthner.

Kovacs, Frank. 2005/6. Tiridates I of Armenia. *Jahrbuch für Numismatik und Geldgeschichte* 55/56:105-110, with corrections to the printed legends in Corrections to JNG 55/56, *Jahrbuch für Numismatik und Geldgeschichte* 2007:195.

Lanz = Numismatik Lanz. 2011. Auction 151, 30 June, Munich.

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\_\_\_\_\_. 2008. *Catalogue of Armenian coins collected by Y.T. Nercessian*. Los Angeles: Armenian Numismatic Society.

OGIS = W. Dittenberger. 1903-5. *Orientis Graecae inscriptiones selectae*. Leipzig: S. Hirzel.

RIC = Sutherland, C.H.V. 1984. *The Roman imperial coinage*. vol. 1. From 31 B.C. to A.D. 69. revised edition. London: Spink & Son.

RPC 1 = Burnett, Andrew, M. Amandry, and P. P. Ripollès. 1992. *Roman provincial coinage*. London and Paris.

RPC S2 = Burnett, Andrew, M. Amandry, P. P. Ripollès, I. Carradice. 2006. *Roman provincial coinage. Supplement 2*. [www.uv.es/~ripolles/rpc\\_s2](http://www.uv.es/~ripolles/rpc_s2).

Saryan, L. A. 1991. An ancient bronze depicting an Armenian tiara. *Numismatic Circular* May: 112.

Sell. = Sellwood, David. 1980. *An introduction to the coinage of Parthia*. London: Spink and Son, 2 ed.

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## ARMENIAN NUMISMATIC LITERATURE

1 ASBAREZ. Kedronakan dramaturē vēts' nor hushadramner t'ogharkats ē [The Central Bank of Armenia Has Issued Six New Commemorative Coins] - Կեդրոնական դրամառունը վեց նոր յուշադրամներ թողարկած է. Asbarez, Vol. 104 (Wednesday, 25 January 2012), No. 14,133, p. 4, illus. In Armenian.

The Central Bank of the Republic of Armenia has released the following commemorative coins: 300th birthday anniversary of Sayat-Nova (gold, author Tigran Chobanian), 20th anniversary of the liberation of Shushi (gold, author Harutyun Samvelian), 20th anniversary of the formation of the Armenian Army (gold and silver, author Harutyun Samvelian), 125th birthday anniversary of Hovsēp' Orbeli (silver, author Vardan Vardanian), 500th anniversary of the printing of Armenian book (silver, author Vardan Vardanian). YTN

Հայաստանի Հանրապետութեան Կեդրոնական Դրամառունը թողարկած է հետեւյալ յուշադրամները. Սայաթ-Նովայի ծննդեան 300ամեակ (ոսկի, հեղինակ Տիգրան Չոբանյան), Շուշիի ապաստագրման 20ամեակ (ոսկի, հեղինակ Յարութիւն Սամուչեան), Հայոց բանակի կազմառուման 20ամեակ (ոսկի և արծաթ, հեղինակ Յարութիւն Սամուչեան), Յաղսկ Օրբելիի ծննդեան 125ամեակ (արծաթ, հեղինակ Վարդան Վարդանյան Սամուչեան), Հայ Գիրքի տապարութեան 500ամեակ (արծաթ, հեղինակ Վարդանյան Վարդանյան):

Եթէն

2 TAMEANKO, Marvin. Complex Heritage of the Herodian Kings of Armenia, by Marvin Tameanko. *The Shekel*, Vol. XLVI (July-August 2013), No. IV (250), pp. 26-34, illus.

Based on historical events, the Jewish and Armenian peoples seem to have much in common: Both Jews and Armenians lost their countries in the first century B.C. In exile, both created worldwide diaspora communities. The two nations retained the desire to return to their homelands. Both of them established communal, religious and political organizations that labored for centuries to attain their goal. Both the Jews and Armenians suffered systematic deportations and genocidal extermination during the 20th century. An historical background of Armenia is given and some of the major events are elaborated, such as the landing of Noah's ark on Mt. Ararat and conversion of Armenia to Christianity. Tigranes II is mentioned, how he fought against the state of Judea and deported 10,000 Jews to Armenia to populate his new cities. The Romans defeated Tigranes II and made Armenia a dependency of Rome, which later appointed Armenian kings as their vassals. In order to reward Roman-appointed client monarchs of Judea for their faithful service, Augustus appointed Tigranes V, a grandson of King Herod, as king of Armenia, replacing murdered Artavasdes IV (4-6 B.C.). Additionally, Aristobulus, a great grandson of Herod III, with the assistance of the Roman army, ruled over Armenia Minor. Illustrations accompanying the article include images of Armenian coins.

Հիմնուած պատմական գէպքերու վրայ, Հրեայ և Հայ ժողովուրդները, ըստ երկոյժի, ունեցած են նյանաման անցեալ մը: Հրեաներն ու Հայերը կրունցոցին իրենց հայրենիքը ն.թ. առաջին զարուն Տարագորթեան մէջ, երկուքն ալ ստեղծեցին աշխարհասարսած գաղութներ երկու ազգերն ալ կենդամի պահեցին հայրենիք վերապրի փափաքը: Երկուքն ալ հմենցին համայնքային կրօնական և քաղաքական կազմակերպութեաներ, որոնք զարքեր աշխատեցան իրենց համայնքային համայնքուն պահպան ալ, հայերն ու հրեաները, 20րդ դարու ընթացքին տառապեցան ծրագրուած տարագորթնենց և ցեղասամութենէց Տրուած է պատմական ուրուագիծ մը: Հայաստանի համար, և որոշ գլխաւոր պատմական գէպքեր շեշտուած են, ինչպէս նոյն տապանին իշխելը Արարատ լեռան վրայ և Հայաստանի քրիստոնէացունը: Եթշուած է Տիգրան Բ, ինչպէս իր պատերազմիլը Ցուղադյան երկրին գէմ, 10,000 հրեայ տարագրելը Հայաստան, որ բնակեցնէ իր նորակառոյց քաղաքներուն մէջ: Հոռոմէացիները պարտութեան մասնեցին Տիգրան Բ-ը և Հայաստանը վերածեցին հռոմէական հաստակութեան: Աւելի ուշ՝ նշանակեցին Հայ թագաւորներ իրեր իրենց հրու-հապատ իշխողներ: Օգոստոս պարգևելու համար Ցուղադյան կը լուսապատճեն իրենց հաստակութեան համար, Հայաստանին Տիգրան Ե-ը, Հերովլէս թագաւորի թոռը, իրեր Հայաստանի թագաւոր, որը փոխարինեց սպանուած Արտաւագ Դ-ին (4-6 Ն.թ.): Ինչպէս նաև, Արխանուպուլու Հերովլէս Դ-ի ծոռը, Հռոմէական բանակի օգնութեամբ թագաւորոց Փոքր Հայքի վրայ: Յօդուածին ընկերակցած են Հայկական դրամներու պատերները:

Եթէն



Series II

Volume 10 (40), No. 2

June 2014

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ԴՐԱՄԱԳԻՏԱԿԱՆ  
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ARMENIAN  
NUMISMATIC  
JOURNAL

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# ՀԱՅ ԴՐԱՄԱԳԻՏԱԿԱՆ ՀԱՆԴԻՍ

## ARMENIAN NUMISMATIC JOURNAL

Series II

Vol. 10 (40), No. 2

June 2014

### ANNOUNCEMENT

In this issue of ANJ, "Complex Heritage of the Herodian Kings of Armenia," the coins of Tigranes IV (8-5 B.C.) (ACV 171 and ACV 162) are assigned to Tigranes V (A.D. 6) and Tigranes VI (A.D. 60-62). Obviously, we have a great respect to Mr. Tameanko; however, we do not agree with these attributions. We have a small paragraph on this subject, see ANJ, Vol. 6 (36), (2010), p. 61, footnote No. 2.

YTN

### NUMISMATIC LITERATURE REACHED ARMENIA

Ձեր ուղարկած ծանրոցը՝ ՀՆՀ 2013-ի 15 օրինակ և մեկ առանձին պրակ. ստացակը:  
Ընթակադրություն:

Ընդունելու վարդապետական

### TELEPHONE CALLS, LETTERS AND E-MAILS TO THE EDITOR

Would you clarify for me the copyright status of articles in the *Armenian Numismatic Journal*? I do not remember signing a written transfer of copyright agreement to the *Armenian Numismatic Journal*, and do not see a notice of copyright (©) in it.

Assuming you have no objection, I intend to post on the Internet a copy of my article on Artaxias III after it is published in January 2014. It would appear on the academic web site [www.academia.edu](http://www.academia.edu) where scholars in many fields post their current and past articles (in PDF format) so that other researchers can have easier access to them. Many numismatic scholars check this site, and it would be beneficial to the *Armenian Numismatic Journal* to have this additional visibility. I will also upload some articles from the *Armenian Numismatic Journal*.

Frank Kovacs

Recently, on a numismatic journey, I visited the old Commagene-region and was happy to study the Commagenean coins in the Museum of Adiyaman (ca. 130 ex.). Rudy Dillen

... As a new collector, I also like to ask you and your readers for recommendation on kings/dynasties/eras that are good starting points for a collection. Peter Hajinian

#### Editor's response:

Orontid dynasty (ca. 260-70 B.C.), Arsames II (ca. 230 B.C.), copper coins

Artaxiad dynasty (189 B.C.-A.D. 34), Tigranes II (95-56 B.C.), silver and copper coins

Roupenian dynasty (1080-1375), Levon I (1198-1219), silver trams and copper tanks, and

Hetoum I (1226-1270), Hetoum-Zabel silver trams and copper tanks and kardezzes

Republic of Armenia and surrounding years (1918-1929), bank notes of Armenia

ARMENIAN NUMISMATIC JOURNAL is the quarterly publication of Armenian Numismatic Society, an educational, non-profit organization. Editor, Y. T. Nercessian, 8511 Beverly Park Place, Pico Rivera, CA 90660-1920, USA (webpage: [www.ArmNumSoc.org/](http://www.ArmNumSoc.org/); e-mail: [ArmNumSoc@aol.com](mailto:ArmNumSoc@aol.com)). Associate Editors, W. Gewenian and T. Nercessian, Corresponding Editors, L. A. Saryan. Non-member subscriptions \$70/80 per year. **ISSN 0884-0180—LCCN 85-649443**

In October, my numismatic display "A Medieval Armenian Coin Hoard" won the Del Bertschy 2013 Best-in-Show award at the Milwaukee Numismatic Society's coin show. The prize was a gold coin. I was also honored with a medal recognizing my service as the Society president from 2010 to 2012.

A few days later, I was returning home from a visit to my mother in California when I found myself in the wrong place at exactly the wrong moment in time. A shooter armed with a high-powered rifle entered terminal 3 at Los Angeles International Airport just as I was going through the X-ray machine at security. Only through the grace of God was I able to emerge unscathed, and I am eternally grateful to the Almighty for sparing me at that crucial moment.

Levon Saryan

#### Comments on LAX Shooting and L. A. Saryan ordeal

Give thanks to God that nothing bad happened to you.

Y. T. Nercessian

We were sorry to hear of Levon Saryan's ordeal in L. A., but were also glad he was not injured. Thank God.

Stephen Dulgarian

Thank you for the reminder. Please be advised that I do not plan to renew my subscription [membership] for 2014.

John Jencek

I mailed the check as soon as I got your e-mail. I'm sorry I didn't get to it sooner. Wishing you and your family a Merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy 2014.

Hrayr Aris

I found a list of books for sale on your website and was wondering if it is current, or perhaps something from a while ago? The URL is <http://www.armnumsoc.org/list.htm>. If it is still current, there are several references I would love to get. In particular, the catalogs by Bedoukian and Nercessian. Could you be so kind as to let me know if this list is still valid?

Alexander Akin

## ARTICLES SCHEDULED IN COMING ARMENIAN NUMISMATIC JOURNAL ISSUES

Armenian Coins Excavated at Kinet, Part II, by Y. T. Nercessian

Articles on Gosdantin I double trams and ..., by Fr. C. Sibilian, P. Z. Bedoukian, L. A. Saryan, and I. Targac

Pre-Coronation Trams of Levon II, by Y. T. Nercessian

A Recent Bronze Coin Forgery of Tigranes II of Armenia, by L. A. Saryan

The Armenian Coin Auctions of 2013 and 2014, by Y. T. Nercessian

Metrology of Copper Coinage of the Artaxiad Dynasty of Armenia, Tigranes IV and Erato (2 B.C.-A.D. 1), Tigranes V with Erato and Tigranes V with Augustus (A.D. 6)

Selected Armenian Numismatic Bibliography of Ancient and Medieval Periods, 2001-2010, by Y. T. Nercessian

A New Reading of the Legends on and Attribution of Coins of Baron Gosdantin I of Armenian Cilicia, by A. Tangamyan

Պերճ Ա. Ապասանելանի դրամագիտական և հնագիտական ժողովածուն, Վերակազմո՞ւ Սղիա Ներսէսեան

### ANNOUNCEMENT

A reconstruction of Ex-Berj M. Garabedian numismatic and antiquity collection is planned. It would be very much appreciated if the *Armenian Numismatic Journal* readers with unpublished information on this collection could inform us.

YTN

## HORSE'S HEAD DESIGN ON COINS OF SOPHENE

Y. T. NERCESSIAN

(Plate 5)

During the last few years two coins attributed to Sophene surfaced which are engraved with a horse's head. One of these coins was published by Frank Kovacs.<sup>1</sup> Recently, the second coin appeared in the coin market, purchased by the author, which displays a horses head. Prior to these two coins, Ernest Babelon, in 1890, published a coin with horse's head, attributed to Abdissares.<sup>2</sup>

Horses have been a part of the culture of ancient Armenia for many reasons. The horse-breeding industry was extremely important in Armenia.<sup>3</sup> Horses were used extensively in Armenian rural economy and for transportation. Obviously, for the mountainous terrain of Armenia horses were a necessity to form the cavalry of Armenian military. Also, horses were utilized to pull military transportation vehicles.

The horseman in Armenia was called *ayrudzi* (= *արուճի*). In 331 B.C., Armenia was semi-independent but part of the Persian Empire. The Armenian King Orontes joined the Persian army with 40,000 foot soldiers and 7,000 *ayrudzis* in the battle of Arbela. In this war Alexander the Great was victorious over the Persian king Darius.<sup>4</sup>

Antiochus IV Epiphanes granted peace to Xerxes on condition that he pay the tribute owed to him by his father, King Arsames. The payment is said to have consisted of 300 talents, 1000 horses, and 1000 mules with their harnesses.<sup>5</sup>

According to Strabo, the Armenians provided 20,000 colts annually to the Persian king.<sup>6</sup> Later, the historians mention that during the reign of King Tiridates III (287-330 A.D.), the Armenian king's cavalry included more than 70,000 *ayrudzis*, and the princes of various districts (*nakharar* as they were called at that time) had more than 84,000.<sup>7</sup>

The excavations of Karmir Blur,<sup>8</sup> an ancient Urartian site in Armenia, lasted from 1939 to 1970.<sup>9</sup> These excavations revealed that during the first millennium B.C., the people of the Armenian plateau used domesticated horses very extensively. Some of the unearthed bronze artifacts are embossed and chased with the images of a horseman and a war chariot pulled by two horses revealing very pertinent information about their way of life and how these

<sup>1</sup> Frank L. Kovacs, "Sophene: New Coins and Comments," *Armenian Numismatic Journal*, Ser. II, Vol. 6 (36), (2010), pp. 97-98, pl. 5, see No. 1.

<sup>2</sup> Ernest Babelon, *Les Rois de Syrie, d'Arménie et de Commagène* (Paris, Bibliothèque Nationale, 1890), pp. 211-212, No. 5, pl. XXIX.

<sup>3</sup> *History of the Armenian People* (Erevan, 1971), Vol. I, 370 (in Armenian). *Soviet Armenian Encyclopedia* (Erevan, 1980), Vol. 6, p. 702 (in Armenian).

<sup>4</sup> H. A. Manandian, *A Critical Survey of the History of the Armenian People* (Erevan, 1944), Vol. I, p. 91 (in Armenian); Also in *Collected Works* (Erevan, 1977), Vol. I. p. 95 (in Armenian). *Soviet Armenian Encyclopedia* (Erevan, 1974), Vol. 1, p. 354-356 (in Armenian).

<sup>5</sup> Paul Z. Bedoukian [CSCI], "Coinage of the Armenian Kingdoms of Sophene and Commagene," in *Selected Numismatic Studies II*, pp. 39-69, pls. 1-2, especially p. 44; reprinted from *Coinage of the Armenian Kingdoms of Sophene and Commagene* (Los Angeles, 1985), 37 pp., 2 pls., the English section is reprinted from the American Numismatic Society, *Museum Notes*, Vol. 28 (New York, 1983), pp. 71-88, pls. 11-12.

<sup>6</sup> *Soviet Armenian Encyclopedia* (Erevan, 1977), Vol. 3, p. 126 (in Armenian).

<sup>7</sup> *Soviet Armenian Encyclopedia* (Erevan, 1974), Vol. 1, p. 355 (in Armenian).

<sup>8</sup> B. B. Piotrovskii, *Urartu, The Kingdom of Van and its Art* (1967, New York, Washington); B. B. Piotrovsky, *Karmir Blur* (1970, Leningrad); G. Azarpay, *Urartian Art and Artifacts, a Chronological Study* (1968, Berkeley and Los Angeles).

<sup>9</sup> *Soviet Armenian Encyclopedia* (Erevan, 1979), Vol. 5, pp. 331-332 (in Armenian).

people used horses in their battles (Figs. d, e, and f). The unearthed materials include a bronze horse's head,<sup>10</sup> a bronze helmet ascribed to Argishti I (786-764 B.C.),<sup>11</sup> and a bronze quiver of Sarduri II (764-735 B.C.).<sup>12</sup>

Among these three artifacts the bronze horse's head interests us most, since that is what the coin reverses depict. Piotrovskii is convinced that the bronze piece was used to decorate the top of a chariot-pole. Reference books show this artifact from many different angles and it is obvious that the inside is hollow. Piotrovskii describes it as "extremely expressive"<sup>13</sup> and the photographic images testify to that.

Hence, it is not surprising to see a horseman and a horse's head engraved on the coins of Sophene. A review of the author's study on the coinage of Sophene<sup>14</sup> reveals that Arsames I and Arsames II have a horseman design (Figs. a and b) on their coins and Arsames I and Abdissares have horse's head reverses (Figs. 1 and 3) on their coins. To both of these, we can add author's new acquisition of a coin of Arsames II, which displays again on the reverse a horse's head (Fig. 2).<sup>15</sup>

For the convenience of the reader, we describe the coins of Arsames I and Abdissares with horse's head reverse. Compare the horse's head reverses of coins 1 and 2 with each other and with the illustration of bronze horse's head artifact (see Fig. e).

**ARSAMES I**  
(ca. 240 B.C.)

**1. One Chalcus. Horse's Head.**

Obv.: Head of Arsames r. wearing pointed tiara with drapes covering neck. Traces of star l. of tiara.

Rev.: Horse's head and neck right. Legend to right downward [BA]ΣΙΑΕ[ΩΣ], to l. downward ΑΡΣΑΜΟΥ.

Data:  $\text{AE}$ , 2.91g-15ø-12h (CAKS-6.a), Kovacs coll.

**ARSAMES II**  
(ca. 230 B.C.)

**2. One Chalcus. Horse's Head.**

Obv.: Head of Arsames l. wearing tiara with flat top like a cap; a diadem encircles the head, ends in bow, and hangs down neck.

<sup>10</sup> Piotrovskii, *Urartu*, pls. 24 and 25; Piotrovsky, *Karmir Blur*, pl. 59, pp. [118 and 119]; Azarpay, pls. 27 and 28.

<sup>11</sup> Piotrovskii, *Urartu*, pls. 20a and 20b; Piotrovsky, *Karmir Blur*, pls. 44, 46, 47, and 48, pp. [118 and 119]; Azarpay, pls. 10, 12, and 13.

<sup>12</sup> *Soviet Armenian Encyclopedia* (Erevan, 1974), Vol. 1, p. 355 (in Armenian); Piotrovsky, *Karmir Blur*, pl. 49, pp. [118 and 119]; Azarpay, pl. 21.

<sup>13</sup> Piotrovskii, in his book *Urartu*, p. 53, writes, "One of the finest examples of Urartian art turned up in 1957 in a wine-cellar which was excavated at Karmir Blur (pls. 24 and 25). It was a horse's head, about 17 cm high, which apparently decorated the top of a chariot-pole. This small piece of sculpture is extremely expressive, and the eyes, nostrils and mouth are beautifully executed..." After describing how it was manufactured, he adds, "Our account of Urartian minor sculpture in bronze must be confined to the four authentic examples which are known today..."

<sup>14</sup> Y. T. Nercessian, "Coinage of the Armenian Kingdom of Sophene (ca. 260-70 B.C.) (CAKS)," *Armenian Numismatic Journal*, Series II, Vol. 7 (37), (September 2011), No. 3, pp. 53-63, pls. 1-4 (Armenian summary).

<sup>15</sup> Reviewing the horse design on coins of the Artaxiad dynasty and Cilician Armenia is beyond the scope of this paper.

Rev.: Horse's head and neck r. Legend to r. downward ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ; to l. downward [ΑΡ]ΣΑΜΟ[Υ].

Data:  $\text{AE}$  2.84g-16 $\phi$ -7h (Gorny 211-451), Nercessian coll.

**ABDISSARES**  
(ca. 210 B.C.)

**3. Half Chalcus. Horse's Head.**

Obv.: Head of Abdiissares r., lightly bearded, wearing folded tiara; diademed with ribbon hanging behind head. Beaded border.

Rev.: Horse's head r., bridled. Legend above to r. ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ, below to r. ΑΒΔΙΣΣΑΡΟΥ.

Data:  $\text{AE}$ , 1.85g-12 $\phi$ -12h (CAKS-29.a, Bibliothèque Nationale de France coll.

**Observations on These Coins**

The first known coin among these three is the Abdiissares example reported by Ernest Babelon as noted above.<sup>16</sup> Bedoukian catalogued this coin as an “eagle standing r.” Since he was working with aluminum foil rubbings, such a small and not extremely well-preserved coin could have been confused with another image. Babelon reported the weight of this coin as 1.85 grams; Bedoukian reported this coin with the same weight.<sup>17</sup> The coin has a very small area, and the horse's head, bridled, dominates the entire surface. This is the only example which is bridled and does not have a neck. It is catalogued in our study on the coinage of Sophene as No. 29.a.<sup>18</sup>

The Arsames I coin with horse's head and neck was reported first by F. Kovacs.<sup>19</sup> It dominates the entire field very elegantly, especially with the vertical display of the neck. It is very interesting that the horse's hair is bunched in small bands. Those who are familiar with the artifacts excavated from Karmir Blur cannot help but notice the similarities of the reverse of this coin and the bronze horse's head (see Fig. e). Although this horse's head is not as expressive as the bronze sculpture, nevertheless, still it is a very conspicuous and impressive engraving. This coin was catalogued in our study as No. 6.a.<sup>20</sup>

The last example example surfaced in the coin market and catalogued in this numismatic note is attributed to Arsames II. The reverse is off center and the head is small compared with the Kovacs example. However, the horse's hair has fallen down and covers the front of the neck.

We have three coins depicting horse's head on their reverses, attributed to three different kings of Sophene, and each example has a different type image.

<sup>16</sup> See above foot note No. 2.

<sup>17</sup> Paul Z. Bedoukian, in his pioneering work on the coinage of Sophene, “Coinage of the Armenian Kingdoms of Sophene and Commagene,” No. 17, five pieces of coins are catalogued. The only coin illustrated is the one which has 2.99 grams weight belonging to the British Museum. Two coins are credited to the Bibliothèque Nationale de France coll. One fo them is 1.85 grams, the same weight of the Abdiissares coin (not illustrated).

<sup>18</sup> Y. T. Nercessian, CAKS.

<sup>19</sup> Frank L. Kovacs, “Sophene: New Coins and Comments,” *Armenian Numismatic Journal*, Series II, Vol. 6 (36), (December 2010), No. 4, pp. 97-98, pl. 5, No. 1.

<sup>20</sup> Y. T. Nercessian, CAKS.

### Illustrations of the plate

- 1) Arsames I, horse's head,  $\mathcal{A}$ , 2.91g-15 $\vartheta$ -12h, Kovacs coll.
- 2) Arsames II, horse's head,  $\mathcal{A}$ , 2.84g-16 $\vartheta$ -7h, Nercessian coll.
- 3) Abdissares, horse's head,  $\mathcal{A}$ , 1.85g-12 $\vartheta$ -12h, Bibliothèque Nationale de France coll.
- a) Arsames I, horseman with lion,  $\mathcal{A}$ , 5.72g-21 $\vartheta$ -12h, Nercessian coll.
- b) Arsames I, horseman with foot soldiers,  $\mathcal{A}$ , 3.65g-18 $\vartheta$ -12h, Nercessian coll.
- c) Arsames II, horseman,  $\mathcal{A}$ , 5.62g-20 $\vartheta$ -11h, CNG 72-849.
- d) A section of bronze quiver of Sarduri II (764-735 B.C.), from Karmir Blur, Armenia.
- e) Bronze horse's head, from Karmir Blur, Armenia.
- f) Detail of a section of bronze helmet of Argishti I (786-764 B.C.), from Karmir Blur, Armenia.

### ԶԻՈՒ ԳԼՈՒԽ ՊԱՏԿԵՐԱՏԻՊԸ ԾՈՓՔԻ ԴՐԱՄՆԵՐՈՒՆ ՎՐԱՅ

[Ամփոփում]

Վերջեաս յայնաբերուեցան երկու դրամներ, որոնց զրայ քանդակուած է ձիու գլուխ Ասոնցձէ մին 2010-ին հրատարակուեցաւ Թրանք Քովակսի կողմէ: Ուրիշ մը գնուեցաւ հեղինակին կողմէ: Ըլքնչսթ թաքելոն, 1890-ին հրատարակեց ձիու խորուով դրամ մը, վերագրուած՝ Արդիարշին:

Հայաստանի մէկ, ձիերը հայկական կենցաղին կարեւոր մէկ մասն էին: Անսանքութիւնը յատուկ ուշադրութեան արժանացած էր Զիերը դործածուած են գիւղաստանեսութեան մէջ եւ փոխադրութեան համար: Զիերը կարեւոր մէկ ման էին հայկական այրուձի հեծելազօրքին:

Արբելայի հակատամարտին, պարսիկներու օգնելու համար, հայոց Երուանդ թագաւորը մասնակցած է 40,000 հետևակազօրքով և 7,000 այրուձիով: Անշիռուս Դ. դաշնք կնքելու համար, Քսերբաչէն պահանջած է իր հօր՝ Արշամին պարտքը ու ասացած է 300 տաղան, 1000 ձի եւ 1000 զորի իրենց պահուորցներով: Հայաստան տարեկան 20,000 մտրուկ ուղարկած է պարսից թագաւորին: Աւելի ուշ, Տրդատ Գի զահակալութեան, թագաւորին հեծելազօրքը բաղկացած է 20,000 այրուձիով և զանազան մարզերու նախարարները միատեղ ունեցած են 84,000 այրուձի:

Լստ Հայկական Սովետական Համբագիտարամի, Կարմիր Բլուրի պեղումները տևած են 1939էն մինչև 1970 թուականները Պեղումներու արդինքները բացայատասած են, որ Ն.Ք. առաջին հազարամեակի ընթացքին Հայկական Բարձրագանդակի բնակիչները գործածած են ընտանի ձիեր: Յայնաբերուած առարկաները ցոյց կու տան ձիաւորի նկարը քանդակուած սաղաւարտի մը վրան, երկձի մարտակառքի նկարը քանդակուած կապարձի մը վրան, ինչպէս նաև ձիու գլխուն բրոնզէ արձանու:

Հետեւաբար զարմանլի չէ Նշմարել ձիաւորի և ձիու գլուխին նկարները, որոնք մեզի ընծայուած են Սովոքի հայ թագաւորներու դրամներուն վրայ:

Արշամ Ա. թագաւորի (շուրջ 240 Ն.Ք.) բրոնզէ դրամի մը վրան կերտուած է ձիու գլուխն ու վիզը, Արշամ Բ.ի (շուրջ 230 Ն.Ք.) նորայալ բրոնզէ դրամի մը վրան քանդակուած է ձիու գլուխն ու վիզը, ծածկուած՝ ձիու մազովը, ինչպէս նաև Արդիսարչս թագաւորի (շուրջ 210 Ն.Ք.) բրոնզէ դրամին վրայ պատկերուած է ձիու կլուխը իր պախուցով:

Այս երեք դրամներէն ամենէն հետաքրքրականը Արշամ Ա.ի դրամին կոնակին վրայ կերտուած ձիու վիզն ու գլուխն է: Այս մէկը մեզի կը լիշեցնէ Կարմիր Բլուրէն յայտնաբերուած ձիու գլուխով բրոնզէ արձանը

Բ. Բիտորպակսի իր հեղինակած Արարոտու գիրքին մէջ այս արձանին համար «Հափազանց արտայատիչ» կը գրէ, երբ նկատի կ'ունենա ձիուն գլուխը, ուունգերը և բերանը Դրամին վրայի պատկերը թէւ նոյնչափ արտայատիչ չէ, սակայն ու այնպէս չափ աչքառու պատկերատիպ ու քանդակ մըն է, որ անպայման մէր միտքերը կը թարմացնէ Կարմիր Բլուրէն յայտնաբերուած եղակի բրոնզէ արձանին նկարովը

Ե. Թ. Ներսէսիան



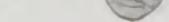
1



2



3



Horse's head reverse coins



a



b



c



Horseman reverse coins



d



f



e

Y. T. Nercessian, Horse's Head Design on Coins of Sophene



1



2



3



4



5



8



6



7



9

Marvin Tameanko, Complex Heritage of the Herodian Kings of Armenia

## COMPLEX HERITAGE OF THE HERODIAN KINGS OF ARMENIA

Marvin TAMEANKO

Plate 6

Some scholars have suggested that the ancient Jewish and Armenian people are directly connected by history.

This theory was based on literary references and several historical events but, in addition, the two nations seemed to have much in common. Both the ancient Jews and Armenians lost their countries in the 1st century A.D., and, in exile, both created worldwide diaspora communities. The two nations retained the desire to return to their native homelands and, to this end, established communal, religious and political organizations that labored for centuries to attain their goal.

The Jewish state, Israel, was founded in 1948 and Armenia became a democratic country, independent of the Soviet Union, in 1991. Both peoples engaged in, or gravitated toward, the same professions, businesses and trades.

In addition, the two diaspora communities were constantly maligned and demonized by their neighbors. They were persecuted, murdered or banished, and prevented by laws from participating in the societies they lived in. Both peoples, even if native-born, were considered to be "aliens" and "disloyal," and made the scapegoats for their countries' disasters. In one final horror, both the Jews and Armenians suffered systematic deportation and genocidal extermination during the 20th century. In addition, some historical connection between them may be suggested by the facts that a diaspora community of Jews was formed in ancient Armenia in the 1st century and the Armenian Christian church established a quarter in Jerusalem in the 6th century A.D.

Most historians considered a connection between the two people to be doubtful but many ancient coin collectors supported it because they were familiar with coins struck in the 1st century by two Jewish kings who ruled Greater Armenia (Armenia Major) and one Jewish monarch who sat on the throne of Lesser Armenia (Armenia Minor).

The ancient Armenian homeland consisted of the highlands around biblical Mount Ararat, the place supposedly where Noah's ark landed after the flood, and the Armenians are usually connected to the Old Testament by this legend. (Fig. 2)

Over the years, the Armenians became a regional power to dominate a large part of Asia Minor.

But in the 1st century B.C., they were conquered by the Parthians and the Romans and became a buffer state between these two competing powers.

Most noteworthy in history, in 301 A.D. the king and nobility converted to Christianity and Armenia became the first nation to officially become Christian.

Surprisingly, in some ancient literature the Armenians are called the “Ashkenazi,” a term later applied to Jews from Western Europe.

The name Armenia today refers to the Republic of Armenia, a former state in the Soviet Union. It is bordered by Turkey in the west, Georgia to the north, Azerbaijan to the east and Iran in the south. The earliest connection between Armenians and Jews occurred when the most famous Armenian monarch, Tigranes II the Great (95 to 55 B.C.) settled colonies of Judaeans in Armenia. Early in his reign, Tigranes II escaped the yoke of Parthian dominance and, in 83 B.C., he became king of the Seleucid (Syrian) Empire.

### **Judeans Settled Under Tigranes II**

As king of Syria, Tigranes II fought against the expanding Hasmonean state of Judaea, ruled by Queen Salome Alexandra (76 to 67 B.C.), and deported many Jews - some historians say 10,000 - to Armenia to populate his new cities. Tigranes II had introduced Hellenism into Armenia and set out to urbanize the pagan, agricultural community by building cities, introducing trade and commerce, and adopting Greek culture and religion.

Tigranes II's coinage set the pattern for the Armenian coins issued in the following centuries and directly influenced the currency struck by the later kings.

His coins were struck in his Syrian capital city, Antioch on the Orontes, and these copied the designs of the local Seleucid coinage but showed Tigranes wearing the distinctive Armenian crown, a jeweled tiara headdress with ear flaps. The reverses of his coins usually showed the city's patron deity, Tyche (Fortuna) seated, with the river-god Orontes, at her feet. The king's Greek inscription on the coins was usually BASILEOS TIGRANOY (ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ), King Tigranes (Fig. 3), but some coins gave the king the ancient Persian royal title, “King of Kings,” BASILEOS BASILEON (ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΝ), to mean ‘emperor.’

Tigranes II also struck a large series of bronze coins for use in the Armenian marketplaces. These coins were fabricated in the Parthian style, out of respect for the eastern heritage of early Armenia.

Typically, this coinage shows the head of Tigranes II wearing the Armenian tiara crown but with the Parthian image of the demigod Hercules on the reverse. (Fig. 4) The Greek legend on these coins titled the king as “Tigranes King of Kings.” These bronze coins were struck in the Greek denominations called chalkoi, one chalkos was equal to one-eighth of a silver obol.

In 69 B.C., during the third Roman war with Mithridates VI of Pontus, the father-in-law and ally of Tigranes II, the Romans defeated the two kings in Armenia.

Eventually, the Roman general Pompey conquered the entire Middle East, including Syria, and made Armenia a dependency of Rome. From that date forward, Armenia became a buffer state and was fought over by the western Romans and the eastern Parthians with each power claiming the right to appoint the Armenian king as their vassal.

Herod the Great (37 to 4 B.C.), king of Judaea, was a Roman-appointed client monarch, and Herod's descendants continued to preserve their royal status by becoming loyal friends of Rome. To reward them for faithful service, the Roman emperors often elevated Herod's offspring as client kings in various countries.

### **Tigranes V, a Jewish King**

In 6 A.D., the Roman emperor Augustus appointed a grandson of King Herod as the king of Armenia. This Herodian prince took the throne name Tigranes V, and replaced the recently murdered Armenian king, Artavasdes IV (4 to 6 A.D.), a member of the Artaxiad dynasty that had ruled Armenia since 189 B.C.

This first Jewish king of Armenia was a son of Glaphyra, who was the daughter of Archælus, king of Cappadocia. Glaphyra's mother was an Armenian of the royal Artaxiad line, thus Tigranes V was actually a distant relative to the Artaxiad monarchs.

His father, Alexander III, was the son of Herod and Mariamne, the last Maccabean princess, so Tigranes was a unique mixture of Hasmonean and Artaxiad blood. Tigranes V probably brought a large retinue of Jews to Armenia as courtiers, scholars and advisors, and they blended in with the Jewish community already living in Armenia.

The new king was given a Roman army to defend his throne but he could not control the hostile Armenian nobility or the pro-Parthian political faction and, by political agreement, his reign ended in 12 A.D.

Subsequently, Erato, the queen of a previous Artaxiad ruler, Tigranes IV (2 B.C. to 1 A.D.), was placed on the throne. But she ruled for only two years before the Parthians took full control over Armenia. The end of Erato's reign in 14 A.D. marked the extinction of the royal Artaxiad dynasty in Armenia.

### **Herodian Dynasty's Legacy**

Armenia, as a vassal state, used Roman or Parthian silver coins as its main circulating currency but Tigranes V struck his own bronze coins for use as small change in the economy. These were fabricated in a Parthian style, probably to pacify his pro-Parthian population. The coins usually showed Tigranes V's heavily bearded portrait, similar to those of the Parthian kings, but wearing the Armenian tiara. (Fig. 5)

His Greek coin legend stated BASILEOS TIGRANOY MEGALOY (ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ ΜΕΓΑΛΟΥ), "King Tigranes the Great." This shameless usurpation of the older royal title was an obvious attempt to associate himself with the famous Tigranes II, the Great.

Also, other coins of Tigranes V connected him directly to Tigranes II by reusing the traditional inscription "King of Kings." Generally, the reverses of his coins showed the head of his patron, the emperor Augustus, or an elephant, to represent military power, or the head of Queen Erato, the wife of the last Artaxiad ruler.

From 14 to 58 A.D. Armenia was fought over by the Romans and Parthians with each appointing client kings each time they were victorious. In 59 A.D. Corbulo, the general of the Roman emperor Nero, conquered Armenia and deposed the Parthian appointed king, Tiridates I. Then the Romans nominated a Herodian prince, Aristobulus V, from Chalcis (Lebanon), as their client king of Lesser Armenia, the small kingdom adjacent to and dependent on Greater Armenia.

The new king of Lesser Armenia was the son of Herod III, king of Chalcis, who ruled from 14 to 48 A.D. and also the great grandson of Herod the Great of Judaea.

With the assistance of the Roman army, Aristobulus ruled over Lesser Armenia until 71 A.D. then returned to Chalcis when his father died. Historians believed that at this time the first Chris-

tians began to arrive in Armenia and the Jewish royalty and community may have facilitated their immigration.

While king of Lesser Armenia, Aristobulus struck bronze coins, which are exceedingly rare and found only in very poor condition. These bronze coins, fabricated in a Roman/Syrian style out of respect for his Roman patrons, usually show the head of Aristobulus on the obverses with the bust of Salome, his queen, or with the head of Nero or Vespasian, his Roman overlords, on the reverses.

They were engraved with Greek legends, usually giving the names and titles of the king and Roman emperor. A very rare coin of Aristobulus, showing his queen, Salome, is illustrated above by a line drawing to clearly show the details. (Fig. 6)

#### Even Nero Fiddled with Armenia

By the year 60, Nero had adopted a stronger anti-Parthian policy in the governance of Greater Armenia and appointed another Herodian prince, Tigranes VI (60 to 62), as his client king. Tigranes VI was the great-grandson of Herod the Great and the son of the Herodian king Tigranes V, who had ruled Armenia from years 6 to 12 A.D..

This appointment was politically important to Nero because it confirmed his dominance over the Parthians and he struck coins in the east in 60 to commemorate the event as a victory over Parthia.

On these coins the Greek legend on the reverse is ARMENIA(C), and shows an image of the goddess Victoria. (Fig. 7)

#### Herodian Dynastic Succession

Tigranes VI struck his own bronze coins in Armenia, engraved in a Parthian style similar to those of his father, showing his bearded head wearing the Armenian tiara. These coins carried the Greek legends with the usual royal title, MEGALOY, "The Great." (Fig. 8)

The reverses of these coins usually show a palm branch or Victory holding a wreath, both symbols of some victory; but historical records are uncertain about such a triumph for the king and the images may simply be propaganda devices.

During his reign, Tigranes VI unwisely invaded the neighboring kingdom of Adiabene, a Parthian dependency but ruled by a royalty that had converted to Judaism in around the year 36.

The Parthian king at that time, Vologases I, defended Adiabene and defeated Tigranes VI. He then occupied Armenia in 62, and reinstalled his son, Tiridates I, on the throne. Tiridates had ruled over Armenia from 52 to 59 as the Parthia appointee; his second reign lasted from 62 to 75.

Tigranes VI was the last of the Herodian kings of Armenia. But it is a mistake to label them as "Jewish" in the modern sense of the term. The Herodians did not practice their religion and acted more like the Hellenistic monarchs who conveniently worshiped the local, popular deities of the lands they ruled over.

In fact, the Jewish/Roman historian, Flavius Josephus, in his book *Antiquities of the Jews*, Book 18 Chapter 5, 140-141, mentions that the Herodian Alexander, the son of Tigranes VI of Armenia, was appointed as the king of the island of Ketis in Cilicia by the Roman emperor Vespasian (69 to 79 A.D.).

Josephus writes that the Herodian kings, “deserted their Jewish religion and went over to that of the Greeks” soon after they were born. Truthfully, the Armenian Jewish kings ruled for only short periods of time and they contributed very little to the nation’s heritage, and so are generally neglected by scholars.

However, as rulers appointed by the Romans and accepted by the Parthians, they were important rulers of the “land bridge,” formed by Armenia between the east and west and should be better known to historians.

As for the fate of the descendants of the Herodian Armenian kings, they probably remained in the country as nobility, serving the Romans in lesser and lesser capacities, then, simply disappeared into the mists of time.

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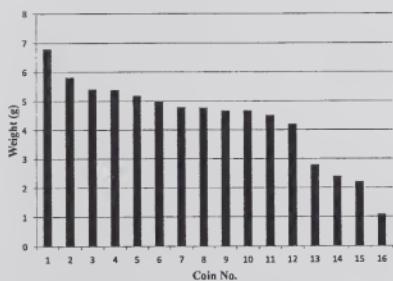
#### KEY TO PLATES

1. An illustration of Armenian Jews from the 18<sup>th</sup> century.
2. The obverse of a recent one-ounce silver bullion issue from Armenia features Noah’s ark.
3. A tetradrachm of Tigranes II, 95-55 B.C., struck in Antioch in Syria. From *Armenian Coins and Their Values*, by Y. T. Nercessian (cited as ACV, 31). Coin photo courtesy Classical Numismatic Group (CNG), [www.cngcoins.com](http://www.cngcoins.com)
4. A bronze coin, a two-chalkoi (a dichalkon) denomination, 20 millimeters in diameter, struck for Tigranes II (95 to 55 B.C.). This is a Parthian-inspired coin type but shows the bust of Tigranes II, also known as Tigranes the Great wearing the Armenian tiara (ACV 66). Coin photo courtesy CNG
5. A two-chalkoi denomination bronze coin of Tigranes V (6 to 12 A.D.), showing his head on the obverse and an elephant on the reverse (ACV 171). Coin photo courtesy CNG
6. Illustration of a rare bronze coin, 21 mm in diameter, struck for Aristobulus (57 to 71 A.D.), king of Lesser Armenia, under Nero, struck approximately 66 to 67 A.D. From the *Guide to Biblical Coins* by David Hendin (Hendin, 1257a). Line drawing by Marvin Tameanko
7. A silver didrachm of Nero, 21 mm in diameter, struck in Caesarea, Cappadocia, 56-58 A.D. (RIC Vol. I-37)
8. A bronze coin, 20 mm in diameter, struck in Armenia for Tigranes VI (60 to 62 A.D.), showing Victory and the legend “King Tigranes the Great” (ACV 162). Coin images courtesy CNG
9. In 1996, Bishop Mkrtchyan discovered a Jewish cemetery in Yeghesis. He sent photos of the tombstones to Prof. Michael Stone of Hebrew University in Jerusalem, who confirmed that the site was a medieval Jewish cemetery. A group of Armenian and Israeli archaeologists and historians excavated the site in 2001 and 2002 and found 64 additional tombstones, many bearing Hebrew or Aramaic inscriptions.

# METROLOGY OF COPPER COINAGE OF THE ARTAXIADS OF ARMENIA

## Artavasdes III (5-2 B.C.)

No.	CAA ACV	Metrological Data wt.-diam.-die axis	Source	No.	CAA ACV	Metrological Data wt.-diam.-die axis	Source				
<b>King's Figure</b>											
<b>4 Chalci</b>											
1	160	6.81g	CAA160PB	14	176	2.40g-14ø	ADTII-TIII20				
Avg. = 6.81g weight				15	160	2.22g-18ø-12h	Er19035/1				
				Avg. = $7.42 \div 3 = 2.47$ g weight							
				Avg. = $49 \div 3 = 16.33$ mm diameter							
				Avg. = 1/12h die axis orientation							
<b>2 Chalci</b>											
2	174	5.83g-20ø-10h	YNCat265	<b>1/2 Chalcus</b>							
3	174	5.43g-20ø-11h	CNG36-632	16	176	1.10g	ACV176JG				
				Avg. = 1.10g weight							
4	160	5.40g	CAA160PB								
5	160	5.20g-19ø-12h	JN119MaB	Tot.Avg. = $69.87 \div 16 = 4.37$ g weight							
6	160	5.00g-23ø-11h	YN6017	Tot.Avg. = $169.7 \div 9 = 18.86$ mm di							
7	160	4.80g-20ø-11h	JN120ArA	Tot.Avg. = 1/10h, 4/11h, 2/12h (7) die							
8	160	4.78g	CAA160BN	axis orientation							
9	160	4.68g-18.7ø-11h	Er19031/29	<b>o/s</b>							
10	160	4.68g	CAA160PB	<b>4 Chalci</b>							
11	160	4.52g	CAA160PB	1	160	6.81g-22ø	o/s-c/m142BN				
12	160	4.22g	CAA160PB								
Avg. = 54.54 ÷ 11 = 4.96g weight				Tot.Avg. 6.81g weight							
Avg. = $120.7 \div 6 = 20.12$ mm diameter				Tot.Avg. 22mm diameter							
Avg. = 1/10h, 4/11h, 1/12h (6) die axis orientation											



Ch. 15.1, King's figure

<b>1 Chalcus</b>			
13	176	2.80g-17ø	CNG61-903



Ch. 15.2, King's figure, o/s

### Eagle Perched on Mountain

<b>2 Chalci</b>			
1	177	5.73g-19ø	AC&B19-55
2	177	4.52g-19ø-10h	YNCat266

Artavasdes III (5-2 B.C.)

No.	CAA	Metrological Data	Source
	ACV	wt.-diam.-die axis	

2 Chalc1

3	177	4.09g-19ø-12h	YNCat267
4	177	4.01g-17ø-12h	CNG36-633
			CNG85-38
5	177	4.00g-17ø	CNG61-902
6	177	4.00g-16ø	ADArxi
7	177	3.93g-17ø-6h	YNCat268

Avg. =  $30.28 \div 7 = 4.3257142$ g weight

Avg. =  $124 \div 7 = 17.71$ mm diameter

Avg. =  $1/10$ h,  $2/12$ h,  $1/6$ h (4) die axis orientation

1 Chalcus

8	---	3.35g-18.4ø-12h	ER19036/2
9	177	3.32g-18ø-12h	YNCat269
10	177	3.20g-17ø-12h	AC&B21-13

Avg. =  $9.87 \div 3 = 3.29$ g weight

Avg. =  $53.4 \div 3 = 17.8$ mm diameter

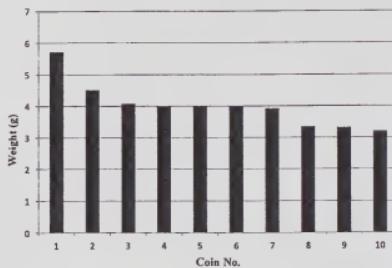
Avg. =  $3/12$ h die axis orientation

No.	CAA	Metrological Data	Source
	ACV	wt.-diam.-die axis	

Tot.Avg. =  $32.80 \div 10 = 3.28$ g weight

Tot.Avg. =  $177.4 \div 10 = 17.74$ mm diameter

Tot.Avg. =  $1/10$ h,  $5/12$ h,  $1/6$ h (7) die axis orientation



Ch. 15.3, Eagle perched on mountain

Table 15.1. Number of coins used to calculate the average weights of Artavasdes III coppers

Coin Rev. Design	Number of coins	Æ Coin Weight
King's Figure	16	4.37g
King's Figure, o/s	1	6.81g
Eagle Perched on Mountain	10	3.28g
TOTAL	27	

Table 15.2. Number of coins used to calculate the average diameters of Artavasdes III coppers

Coin Rev. Design	Number of coins	Æ Coin Diameter
King's Figure	9	18.86mm
King's Figure, o/s	1	22mm
Eagle Perched on Mountain	10	17.74mm
TOTAL	20	

Table 15.3. Number of coins used to calculate the average die axis orientation of Artavasdes III coppers

Coin Rev. Design	Number of coins	Æ Die Axis Orientation
King's Figure	7	1/10h, 4/11h, 2/12h
King's Figure, o/s	---	---
Eagle Perched on Mountain	7	1/10h, 5/12h, 1/6h
TOTAL	14	

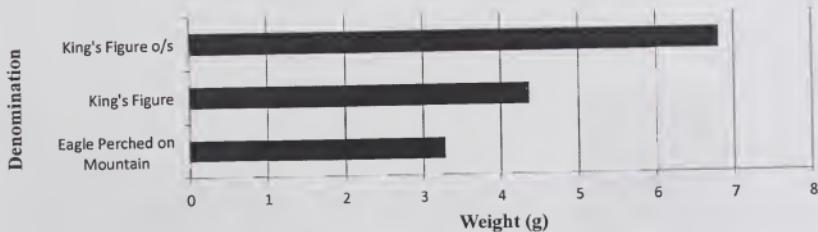


Chart 15.4. Average weights of Artavasdes III copper coins (grams)

## JESUS CHRIST IS THE ONLY INTERCESSOR ON THE CORONATION TRAMS OF KING LEVON I (1198-1219)

Recently, some Armenian numismatists,<sup>1</sup> in their essays, have argued that the figure on the left obverse of the coronation trams of King Levon I cannot be Jesus Christ since his arms are in *orant* position and also the halo does not have a cross in it. Therefore, based on the hymns of the Divine Liturgy of the Armenian Apostolic Church, as well as contemporary manuscript illuminations, and by ignoring the circular inscriptions of the coins, they concluded that the figure can be only the Virgin Mary.

The final and ultimate authority in Christianity is the *Holy Bible*. That is what our ancestors believed in and used to worship God. They used the *Holy Bible* to guide them in their daily lives and their activities. They were pious Christians and a multitude of ancient religious manuscripts reflect that. Let us see what the *Holy Bible* says about the intercession for man near God.

### Quotations from the *Holy Bible*

<i>New King James Version</i> <sup>2</sup>	<i>Authorized King James Version</i> <sup>3</sup>
<b><u>Isaiah 53:12</u></b> Therefore I will divide Him a portion with the great, And He shall divide the spoil with the strong, Because He poured out His soul unto death, And He was numbered with the transgressors, And He bore the sin of Many, And made intercession for the transgressors.	<b><u>Isaiah 53:12</u></b> Therefore will I divide him <i>a portion</i> with the great, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong; because he hath poured out his soul unto death: and he was numbered with the transgressors; and he bare the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.
<b><u>Romans 8:26</u></b> Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.	<b><u>Romans 8:26</u></b> Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.

<sup>1</sup> Dickran Kouymjian, "The Iconography of the 'Coronation' Trams of King Levon I," *Armenian Numismatic Journal*, Ser. I, Vol. IV (1978), pp. 67-74, pls. V-VI (Armenian summary). Ruben Vardanyan, "Cilician Armenian Numismatic Problems," *Armenian Numismatic Journal*, Ser. II, Vol. 9 (39), (2013), pp. 3-19, pls. 1-6 (in Armenian).

<sup>2</sup> *The Holy Bible*, New King James Version, Thomas Nelson Bibles (Nashville, Tennessee, 1982). More than one sources are used for quotations since some translations do not agree and differ in what they say.

<sup>3</sup> *Holy Bible*, Reference edition, Authorized King James Version, Zondervan (Grand Rapids, Michigan, 1994).

Quotations from the *Hoy Bible* (cont.)

<i>New King James Version</i>	<i>Authorized King James Version</i>
<u>1 Timothy 2:5</u> For <i>there is</i> one God and one Mediator between God and men, <i>the</i> Man Christ Jesus,	<u>1 Timothy 2:5</u> For <i>there is</i> one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus;

The above quotations of the *Holy Bible* state definitively that only Jesus Christ can be a mediator or intercessor for man near God.

In his article, Dickran Kouymjian considers Fr. Clement Sibilian's question mark in his letter as "doubt" on the identity of Christ engraved on the coronation trams of Levon I.<sup>4</sup> It is true that Fr. Sibilian, the father of Armenian numismatics, noted a comment stating that the figure on the coronation tram is in the *pazkataradz* position (Բազկատարած = *orant*).<sup>5</sup> Next to the abbreviation of letters **ՔU** (abbreviation for Christ in Armenian), he placed a question mark in parenthesis (?).<sup>6</sup> One should not forget that this letter was signed eight years prior to his death (1878). That means if Fr. Sibilian wanted to revise his book he would have had ample time to do this, assuming that his book was written and completed many years prior to 1870. The plates of Fr. Sibilian's book were prepared in 1875, he reviewed the book for the last time in Constantinople in 1877; and also, the introduction of his book was signed in 1877 by himself, Fr. C. Sibilian.<sup>7</sup> Yet, he did not revise his book and in his book he called these subject coins as the "coronation trams" of King Levon I.



Fig. 1. One-lion and two-lion coronation trams of King Levon I

Very Reverend Father Clement Sibilian was a celibate priest and belonged to the Mekhitarist Order of Vienna. He was extremely knowledgeable regarding the *Holy Bible*. Every morning, before the Divine Liturgy, probably he sang the "Morning of Light (*Առաւօտ լուսո* = *Aravot Luso*)" hymn<sup>8</sup> where the last verse states in classic Armenian "With the

<sup>4</sup> One of the other major arguments of Kouymjian about the coronation tram of Levon I, is the garment of the figure on the left, its ornaments, and shape. One needs only to review some of the Byzantine gold coins (see *Numismaticica Ars Classica, Auction 75*, Nov. 18, 2013) and study the shapes of the garments and ornaments engraved on the clothing of Jesus Christ.

<sup>5</sup> Fr. Grigorios Manian, "The Sibilian Letters; Some Excerpts from the Letters of Fr. Clement Sibilian Addressed to Fr. Simon Antonian," *Armenian Numismatic Journal*, Series I, Vol IV (1978), pp. 19-26, pls. I-III (in Armenian with summary in English).

<sup>6</sup> The coins are considered and labeled as coronation coins.

<sup>7</sup> Fr. Clement Sibilian, *Classification of Roupenian Coins* (Vienna, 1892), pp. IX and XVI (in Armenian).

<sup>8</sup> Nerses Shnorhal (or Nerses the Graceful), "Morning of Light (*Aravot Luso = Առաւօտ լուսո*)," in *Zhamagirk* (Armenian Catholicosate of Cilicia, Antelias, Lebanon, 1986), pp. 35-38 (in Armenian); for an English translation see

intercession of the Mother of God, O Lord Remember us and have mercy upon us" (Ասոնւածածնին բարեխօսութեամբ, յիշեա, տէր, և ողբաւեա). In this hymn the intercession of the Virgin Mary is for the salvation of our souls, because "we shall all stand before the judgment seat of Christ."<sup>9</sup> Also, Jesus said, "No one comes to Father except through Me."<sup>10</sup>

As mentioned above, Fr. Sibilian knew that the figure standing on the left with His arms open in *orant* position is handing a sphere<sup>11</sup> to the king on coronation trams of Levon I. In his book, *Classification of Roupenian Coins*, he described the figure as Jesus Christ, because he knew very well that only Son of God can be an intercessor near God the Father for a human being; the silver coins, coronation trams, reflect this fact.

We are reminded that Levon I was crowned on January 6, 1198, in the cathedral of St. Sofia, Tarsus. Catholicos Krikor Abirad anointed Levon and placed the crown on Levon's head. Imperial Chancellor and Archbishop of Mainz Conrad of Wittelsbach, representing the Holy Roman Empire, presented Levon the royal scepter.<sup>12</sup> Levon received his new title, "King of the Armenians," from the highest Christian authority in the world and with the approval of two Christian empires. Levon now could rule by "Divine right" similar to the other medieval kings of Europe. And his descendants inherited the same "Divine Right" to rule the medieval kingdom of Cilician Armenia.

The first anointed and crowned king<sup>13</sup> of Cilician Armenia inscribed on his silver coins in Armenian, meaning "Levon King of the Armenians/By the Will of God (Լեվոն ԹԱԳԱՆԻՈՒ ՀԱՅՈՑ ԿԱՐՈՂՆԻԹԲԵՐ ԱՍՏ [ԽԻՇՆՅԱՅԻՆ])". On his coronation trams, if Levon did not receive the globe from Jesus Christ, the only intercessor for man near God, would Levon be able to inscribe on his coins "By the Will of God (Կարողութեամբ Ասսոնծոյ)"? No, I don't think so! If he received the globe from the Virgin Mary would Levon be able to rule as king of the Armenians by "Divine Right" like all other medieval kings? No, I don't think so!

Numismatists Fr. Clement Sibilian, Victor Langlois, Gustave Schlumberger, K. J. Basmadjian, Berj Garabedian, Paul Bedoukian, Fr. Augustinus Sekoulian, Khatchadour Mousheghian have labeled these coins as "coronation trams" of Levon I. These people are serious scholars who have studied Armenian coins for a long period.

We should be grateful that we have had such dedicated persons who made great financial and personal sacrifices, earnestly studied and classified Armenian coins that we inherited from our ancestors during the past centuries.

Y. T. NERCESSIAN

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Diana Der Hovanessian and Marzbed Margossian, "Morning of Light," in *Anthology of Armenian Poetry* (Columbia University Press, New York, 1978, pp. 67-70). In this translation, from the end of the hymn, the request for intercession from the Virgin Mary is omitted.

<sup>9</sup> *John* 5: 22 and 30; *Romans* 14:10; *2 Corinthians* 5:10.

<sup>10</sup> *John* 14:6.

<sup>11</sup> Sphere or globe, emblem of sovereignty offered by God to King Levon I.

<sup>12</sup> S. Der Nersessian, "The Kingdom of Cilician Armenia," *A History of the Crusades*, ed. K. M. Setton (Philadelphia, 1962), Vol. II, pp. 630-659.

<sup>13</sup> Levon was the eighth Baron who sat on the throne of Cilician Armenia.

**ՅԻՍՈՒՍ ՔՐԻՍՏՈՆ Է ՄԻԱԿ ԲԱՐԵԽՈՍԸ**  
**ԼԵՒՈՆ Ա. ԹԱԳԱԽՈՐԻ (1198-1219) ՕԾՄԱՆ ԴՐԱՄՆԵՐՈՒՆ ՎՐԱՅ**

Վերջերս որոշ հայ դրամաշահքներ<sup>1</sup>, իրենց բանափրութեանց մէջ վիճեցին, թէ Լեւոն Աթազաւորի օծման դրամներուն վրայի անձը չի կընաը ըլլալ Յիսուս Քրիստոսը, քանի որ իր բազուկները բազկատարած են եւ իր գլխու լուսապակին մէջ իսաշանիշ գոյութիւն չւնախ: Ուրեմն հիմնուած Հայաստանեաց Առաքելական Եկեղեցու Սուրբ Պատարագի շարական-ներուն իմնչպէս նաեւ ժամանակակից ձեռագիր մատեաններու մանրանկարչութեանց վրայ, եւ անտեսելով դրամներուն շրջագրութիւնները, եզրակացուցին որ այդ անձը միայն կրոնայ ըլլալ Սարիամ Աստուածածինը:

Վերջնական եւ ամենակատարեալ հեղինակութիւնը Քրիստոնէական վարդապետութեան համար Աստուածաշումն է: Այս է որ մեր նախահայրերը հաւատացին եւ գործածեցին Աստուծոյ պաշտամունքին ընթացքին: Իրենք Աստուածաշումնը գործածեցին իրենց առօրեայ կեանքին մէջ եւ գործունութեանց ընթացքին: Իրենք հաւատացեալ Քրիստոնեաներ էին եւ մեզի ժամանակ եկած հին ձեռագիր մատեանները այդ կ'արտացոլացնեն: Նայինք թէ Աստուածաշումնը ինչ կ'ըսէ բարեխօսութեան մասին մարդուս համար Աստուծոյ մօտ:

**Վկայակոչումներ Աստուածաշումնէն**

Աշխարհարար	Գրաբար <sup>2</sup>
<p>Հիմն Աշխարհարար<sup>3</sup>  <u>Եսայեալ 53.12</u></p> <p>Անոր համար մեծերուն հետ բաժին պիտի տամ անոր</p> <p>Եւ հօրոներուն հետ աւարէն բաժին պիտի առնէ,</p> <p>Քանզի իր անձը մահուան մատնեց,</p> <p>Ցանցաւորներուն հետ սեպուեցաւ.</p> <p>Շատերու մեղքը վերցուց</p> <p>Ու յանցաւորներու համար միջնորդութիւն ըլլաւ:</p>	<p><u>Եսայի ՍԴ-12</u></p> <p>Վասն այնորիկ նա ժառանգեսց զբազումս, եւ զաւար հօրոց բաշխեսց փոխանակ զի ի մահ մատնեցաւ անձն նորա, եւ ընդ անօրէնս համարեցաւ եւ նա զմեղս բազմաց վերացոյց եւ վասն անօրէնութեանց նոցա մատնեցաւ</p>

<sup>1</sup> Dickran Kouymjian, "The Iconography of the 'Coronation' Trams of King Levon I," *Armenian Numismatic Journal*, Ser. I, Vol. IV (1978), pp. 67-74, pls. V-VI (Հայքին ամփոփում). Բուրբէն Վարդանեան, Վիլիկեան հայկական դրամաշիտութեան խնդիրները, *Armenian Numismatical, Ser. II*, Vol. 9 (39), (2013), էջ 3-19, տախուն 1-6:

<sup>2</sup> Աստուածաշումն, Մատեան Հիմ նոր Կոտայքամաց, Ըստ Եշղիս քարգմանութեան Ախմեաց մերց, (Ամերիկան Ծնկերութիւն Գրոց Սրբոց, Վիեննա, 1929): Մէկէ աւելի ազգիւներ գործածուած են, որուհանեւ տարբեր թարմանութիւններ չեն համաձայնիր:

<sup>3</sup> Աստուածաշումն, Գիրը Հիմ նոր Կոտայքամաններու (Armenian Missionary Association of America, Paramus New Jersey, 1987):

Վկայակոչումներ Աստուածաշումչչն (շար.)

Աշխարհաբար	Գրաբար
<p>Նոր Աշխարհաբար<sup>4</sup>  <u>Հռոմայիցիներուն 8.26</u>  <u>Ճիշտ նոյն ձեւով ալ, Սուրբ Հոգին</u>  <u>ազնութեան կը հանի մեր տկարութեան,</u>  <u>որովէնսեւ մենք որ կ'աղօթենք՝ էնք գիտեր</u>  <u>թէ ինչպէս պէտք է աղօթել բայց Հոգին</u>  <u>ինք մեզի համար կը բարեխօսէ անմռունչ</u>  <u>Հառաջախթներով,</u></p>	<p>Թուղթ առ Հռոմայիցին Ը.26  <u>Նոյնպէս եւ Հոգին ի թիկունս հասանէ</u>  <u>տկարութեամբ մերում. զի զոր կամքն</u>  <u>յաղօթն որպէս արժան իցէ ոչ գիտեմք այլ</u>  <u>ինքն Հոգին բարեխօս լինի ի հեծութիւնս</u>  <u>անմռունչ:</u></p>
<p>Ա. Տիմոթէոսին 2.5  <u>թէ մէկ Աստուած կայ միան, եւ Աստուծոյ</u>  <u>եւ մարդոց միջեւ միակ միջնորդ մը՝ Յիսուս</u>  <u>Քրիստոս մարդու:</u></p>	<p>Թուղթ առ Տիմոթէոս Ա. Բ.5  <u>Զի մի է Աստուած, եւ մի միջնորդ</u>  <u>Աստուծոյ եւ մարդկան, մարդն Յիսուս</u>  <u>Քրիստոս,</u></p>

Վերի վկայակոչումները քաղուած Աստուածաշումչչն՝ առանց վարանումի կը յայտարէն, որ միայն Յիսուս Քրիստոս կրնայ ըլլալ միջնորդ կամ բարեխօս Աստուծոյ մօտ մարդուս համար:



Նկար 1. Լեռն Ա. բագաւորի մէկ առիծով և երկու առիծով օժման դրամները

Իր մօդուածին մէջ, Տիգրան Գուլյումճեան կը համարէ Հայր Կղեմէս Սիպլիեանի նամակին մէջի հարցանիշը որպէս «կասկած» Քրիստոսի ինքնութեան, քանդակուած՝ Լեւոն Ա.ի օժման դրամներուն վրայ<sup>5</sup> Ճիշտ է որ Հ. Սիպիլեան, հայ դրամագիտութեան հայրը, նամակի մը մէջ խորհրդակցութեան ընթատակած յիշատակած է, օժման դրամին վրայի անձին համարած գիրքի մասին, քնճառուած ՔԱ (Քրիստոսի համար) տառերու մօտ արձանագրելով Հարցանիշ մը (?:)։ Պէտք չէ մոռնալ, որ Հ. Սիպիլեանի այս նամակը գրուած է իր մահուան թուեականէն (1878) ութ տարի առաջ։ Այդ կը նշանակէ, որ Հ. Սիպիլեան եթէ ուղեր, շատ ժամանակ ունէր փոխելու համար իր գիրքը, ենթաթրելով որ իր գիրքը գրուած ու կերպացած է 1870-էն առաջ։ Սակայն Հ. Սիպիլեանի գիրքին տախտակները պատրաստուած են 1875-ին, գիրքը կերպնականորէն քննուած է Կ. Պոլսոյ մէջ 1877-ին<sup>6</sup>։ Նաեւ, իր գիրքին «Ներածութիւնը»

<sup>4</sup> Աստուածաշումչն, Նոր Կոստանդնուպոլիս Քրիստոսի (Նոր Բարգմանութիւն արեւմտահայքէնի, Կաթողիկոսութիւն Սեհի Տան Կղլկիո, Աթենիս, Լիբանաս, 1993)

<sup>5</sup> Գուլյումճեանի քնճառութեան տեսակտներէն մին, Լեւոն Ա.ի օժման դրամին վրայ՝ ձախին կանգնած անձին զգեստին ձևու ու զարդեն են Անձ մայն հակիր կերպով պէտք է քնէկ բիզնուական ուղկղարամները (անէս Numismaticia Ars Classica, Auction 75, 18 Նոյեմբեր 2013) եւ սէրտ զգեստին ձևու ու զարդերը, որոնք քաղակուած են Յիսուս Քրիստոսի հագուստին վրայ։

<sup>6</sup> Հ. Գրիգոր Վրդ. Մանաւան, «Սիպիլեան նամակները, Հնագրքքական հատուածներ Հ. Կղեմէս Վրդ. Սիպիլեանի նամակներն ուղղուած էն Միհն Աւտուանինք, Armenian Numismatic Journal, Series I, Vol IV (1978), pp. 19-26, pls. I-III (անգլերէն ամփոփում)։

<sup>7</sup> Դրամները համարուած են ընդունուած են որպէս օժման դրամներ։

<sup>8</sup> Հ. Կղեմէս Վ. Սիպիլեան, Դասաւորութիւն Ծուրեմնամատ Դրամը (Կիեննա, 1892), էջ IX եւ XVI

սսորագրուած է 1877-ին Կ. Պոլսոյ մէջ «Հ. Կղեմէս Վ. Միպիլեան»ի կողմէ: Այնուամենայնիւ ինք երբէք չի փոխեց իր գիրքը եւ ինդրոյ առարկայ դրամներուն կոչէց «Օծման դրամ Եւրոպի Բ.»: այսինքն Եւրոպ Ա. թագաւորին:

Հայր Կղեմէս Վարդապետ Միպիլեան կուսակրօն կղերական մըն էր եւ կը պատկանէր Վիեննայի Միխիթարեան Միք Աստուածաշղթէը շատ լաւ ուսումնասիրած էր: Ամէն առաւօտ, Սուրբ Պատարագէն առաջ, ժամերգութեան ընթացքին, շատ հաւանաբար կ'երգէր «Առաւօտ Լուսոյ» շարականը<sup>9</sup>, ուր վերջին համարը կ'ըսէ Աստուածածնին բարեխօսութեամբ, լիշեա, տէր, և ողորմեան: Այս շարականին մէջ Մայրամ Աստուածածնի բարեխօսութիւնը մէր հոգիներուն փրկութեան համար է, որովհետեւ «որորս այ Քրիստոսի ատենանին դիմաց պիտի կանքնինք»<sup>10</sup>: Ներև Յիշուս ըստ, «Միախ ինձմով կարելի է Զօրս երթալը»<sup>11</sup>:

Ինչպէս յիշը յիշեցաց, Հ. Միպիլեան գիտիք թր Եւրոպ Ա.ի օծման դրամին վրայի ձախին կանգնած անձը, իր բազկատարած թեւերով թագավորին կու տայ գունդ<sup>12</sup> մը: իր գիրքին մէջ, Դասաւորութիւն Ծովածնեամ Դրամոց, ինք նկարագրեց բազկատարած անձը որպէս Յիշուս Քրիստոս, որովհետեւ ինք շատ լաւ գիտեր, որ միայն Աստուածոյ Որդին կրնայ բարեխօսութիւն ընել մարդ արարածին համար Հայր Աստուծոյ մօտ: արծաթեայ օծման դրամները կ'արտացոլացնեն այս իրողութիւնը:

Արժանի է յիշատակել, որ Եւրոպ Ա.ի օծումն ու թագավորութիւնը տեղի ունեցաւ Յ Յունար 1198-ին, Տարսոնի Ս. Սոփիա տաճարին մէջ: Կաթողիկոս Գրիգոր Ապիրատ օծեց Եւրոպին ու գլխուն վրայ զետեղեց թագը: Կայսրութեան Վարչապետ եւ Մայնցի Արքեպիսկոպոս Կոնուրատ Ուիթելապախ, որ կը Ներկայացնէր Ս. Հոռոմէակն կայսրութիւնը, Եւրոպին ընծայեց արքայական զինաւաշանը<sup>13</sup>: Եւրոպ ստացաւ իր նոր արտղոսը, «Թագաւոր Հայոց», աշխարհի մէջի ամենաբարձր քրիստոնեակ Ներկայակութիւնն եւ երկու քրիստոնեայ կայսրութիւններու վաւերացումով: Եւրոպ հիմա կընար իշխան Աստուածային իրաւոններով եւրոպայի ալլ միշնագարեան թագաւորութեուն նման: Եւ իր շառաւողները ժառանգեցին նոյն Աստուածային իրաւոններով՝ կ'առավարթուու համար Կիլիկիոյ միջնալարեան հայկական թագաւորութիւնը:

Հայկական Կիլիկիոյ առաջին օծեալ եւ թագավորեալ<sup>14</sup> արքան՝ իր արծաթեայ դրամներուն վրայ արծանագրեց, «Եւրոպ ԹԱԳԱՆԻՐ ՀԱՅՈՂՎԱՐԻԹԲԱՆ ԱՍՏՈՒԾՈՅ»: Եթէ Եւրոպ գունդը չստանար Յիշուս Քրիստոսին, միակ բարեխօսը մարդ արարածի համար Աստուծոյ մօտ, ինք պիտի կրնա՞ր իր գրամներուն վրայ արծանագրել «Կարողութեամբն Աստուծոյ»: Ո՛չ, չեմ կարծեր: Եթէ գունդը ստանար Մարիամ Աստուածածնին, այլ միշնագարեան թագաւորութեուն նման Եւրոպ պիտի կրնա՞ր «Աստուածային իրաւոններով» թագաւորելու կարողութիւն ունենալ հայոց վրայ Ո՛չ, չեմ կմարծեր:

Թրամագիտներ Հայր Կղեմէս Միպիլեան, Վիկթոր Լանկլուա, Կուսաթաւ Շլումպէրժէ, Կ. Յ. Բամաշինան, Պերճ Տարբապետեան, Զարեհ Պատուկեան, Հայր Օգոստինոս Մեքուլեան, Խաչատուր Մուշեղեան այս դրամներուն որակած են Եւրոպ Ա. թագաւորութեամբ առաջանայինքն: Այս մարդիկը լուրջ բանասէրներ էին եւ հայ դրամները ուսումնասիրած են շատ երկար ժամանակ:

Մենք պէտք է երախտապարագ ըլլանք որ ունեցած ենք նման նուրիմն անձեր, որոնք տնտեսական եւ անձնական մէծ զոհողութեամբ, նախանձանինդրութեամբ եւ նշարութեամբ սերտած ու դասաւորած են մէր նախնիներին ժառանգուած դրամները: Ե. Թ. Ներսէսէամ

<sup>9</sup> Ներսէս Շնորհալի, «Առաւօտ Լուսոյ», ժամագիրք Կաթողիկոսութիւն Մեծի Տան Կիլիկիոյ, Անդիւհիսաւ, Լիբանան, 1986, էջ 35-38.

<sup>10</sup> Յովհաննէս 5-22 եւ 30, Հոռոմայեցիներուն 14:10, Բ. Կողնթացիներուն 5:10.

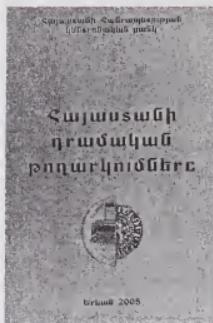
<sup>11</sup> Յովհաննէս 14:6.

<sup>12</sup> Գուշ արքայութեան խորհրդանշան ընծայուած Աստուծոյ կողմէ Էւրոպ Ա. թագաւորին:

<sup>13</sup> S. Der Nersessian, "The Kingdom of Cilician Armenia," *A History of the Crusades*, ed. K. M. Setton (Philadelphia, 1962), Vol. II, pp. 630-659.

<sup>14</sup> Խորինեան հարստութեան ութերորդ Պարոնն էր Եւրոպ, որ բազմեցաւ Հայկական Կիլիկիոյ գահին վրայ:

THREE NEW BOOKS ON  
MODERN ARMENIAN COINS AND CURRENCY



Gevorg Moughalyan, *Hayastani Dramakan Togharkoumnere* (Yerevan: Republic of Armenia Central Bank, 2005), 128 pages (Monetary Issues of Armenia, in Armenian).

Gevorg Moughalyan, *Hayastani Dramakan Togharkoumnere* (Yerevan: Republic of Armenia Central Bank, 2008), 200 pages (Monetary Issues of Armenia, in Armenian).

Susanna Petrosyan, Lusine Ayvazyan, and Nune Teryan, *Collector Coins of the Republic of Armenia 2010* (Yerevan: Republic of Armenia Central Bank, 2011), 36 pages (in English).

The coins and paper money issued since Armenia declared independence in 1991 have attracted an enthusiastic audience. The number of these now exceeds well over 100 different types with a wide variety of themes. Happily, the Central Bank of Armenia is making useful numismatic information about these issues available on an ongoing basis. Three recently published books, *Monetary Issues of Armenia* (2005), *Monetary Issues of Armenia* (2008), and *Collector Coins of the Republic of Armenia 2010*, are among the fruits of this effort.

The first two books are written in Armenian by Central Bank official Gevorg Moughalyan. Each contains descriptive information on individual coins and currency notes, including those

issued for general circulation as well as commemoratives, beginning in 1993. The 2005 and 2008 editions differ mostly in that the first covers issues up to the year 2005 and the second extends the coverage to 2008. Authoritative descriptions, illustrations, and technical data (such as metallic composition, diameter, weight, number of examples struck, name of the artist or designer, the mint where the coin was struck, and even the dates of authorization and release) are given for each issue. Similar details, including watermarks, are provided for paper currency notes. The first several pages are devoted to an introduction by the author and a historical survey of Armenian money from ancient times to the twentieth century. Covered in this overview are ancient and medieval coins, twentieth century paper currency, and the three USSR coins (issued from 1989 to 1991) commemorating the 1988 earthquake, the Matenadaran Manuscript Institute, and David of Sassoun.

No collector of the modern series should overlook these publications, since the informative technical data and specifications are not available anywhere else in such a convenient format. Locating copies, however, may prove challenging; the press run of the 2005 edition was only 300 examples and just 500 for the 2008 edition. While the coverage is accurate and authoritative, readers may find Moughalyan's writing style a bit stiff, and occasionally he uses terminology that might be unfamiliar to readers fluent in western Armenian.

It is necessary to point out that on page 8 of both the 2005 and 2008 volumes the medieval silver tram of Levon I which is illustrated is not a genuine coin, but in fact an often encountered modern forgery, described by Bedoukian as having been made by a jeweler in Antakya (Bedoukian 775). The same forgery is also used to illustrate the cover of the 2005 edition.

*Collector Coins of the Republic of Armenia 2010* departs from the two earlier publications in scope, language and format. Coverage of this English-language book is limited to the 16 commemorative coins issued in year 2010. Here, each coin with its description, technical details, and extensive historical background is presented on individual pages in an attractive full-color album-like format. A checklist of earlier commemoratives (1994-2010) arranged by thematic group, and a table of coin emissions planned for 2011-2012, are included in appendices. Two pages are devoted to the 2010 coin design competition and winning designers, and two pages to foreign mints which have struck coins for Armenia. An introductory statement by Arthur Javadyan, chairman of the Central Bank, describes this book as a "regular journal" for collectors which will appear on a periodic basis. Any collector would be pleased to have one of the just 500 copies that were printed.

Among the interesting facts to be noted in these volumes is that Armenia has so far not established its own minting or currency printing facility. According to Suren Simonyan, head of the Money Cycle Regulation Department at the Central Bank, in 2010 Armenia's coins were struck at mints in the Netherlands, Finland, Poland and Germany.

These three volumes are important additions to Armenian numismatic literature and are essential guides that every collector interested in the modern issues will want to own. They offer the hope that, a century from now, essential details about Armenia's money will not disappear into the memory hole.

Reviewed by L. A. SARYAN, Ph.D.

## NUMISMATIC HIGHLIGHTS IN YEREVAN

Levon Saryan and I had the opportunity to travel to Armenia together during the last week of July 2013, and inevitably we had some very nice numismatic adventures that I would like to share with readers of *Armenian Numismatic Journal*.

On July 26, we toured major museums around Yerevan. Around noon, we arrived at the Armenian Genocide Museum and Institute, now part of the growing Martyrs Monument complex at Tsitsernakabert. We were met by the director, Hayk Demoyan, who invited us into his office for a surprise presentation. Mr. Demoyan presented Levon with the Institute's limited edition Franz Werfel gold medal, in recognition of his generosity in donating four unique original photographs of Armenian national hero Soghomon Tehlirian to the museum's collection. It was a moving moment and brought tears to Dr. Saryan's eyes, as he recounted the story of how he had been entrusted with a national treasure and wanted to be certain that it would be preserved for the benefit of future generations.

Later that same afternoon, we visited the State History Museum of Armenia, where we received a focused tour led by numismatist Armine Zohrabian. At the conclusion of our tour we were permitted to visit the numismatic cabinet, now under the direction of Ruben Vardanyan. Vardanyan conducts active research on early Armenian coins and has written important numismatic books and articles. We enjoyed a vigorous conversation about a number of interesting but still uncertain Armenian coins. Ruben brought out some coins for us to examine, including a Levon II baronial issue in extremely fine condition. The curators also showed us the dies used to strike coins in Cilicia.

On July 31, we again had an opportunity to spend time with Vardanyan and his staff where we continued our conversation and shared e-mail addresses for further communication. It was interesting to learn, for example, that Vardanyan regularly participates in archaeological excavations that take place during the summer months. I suggested that Ruben might be able to provide an opportunity for Armenians from all over to pay a fee and come to Armenia to dig with him. The discoveries would continue to enrich the wonderful collection in the Armenian State Museum. Perhaps, under Ruben's direction, the new ancient coins found would shed new light for collectors hungry for fresh information. These participants, by paying a fee to dig along with other professional archeologists, would provide much needed funds for the numismatic department.

It was refreshing to see that exhibits in Yerevan's major museums have been revamped and updated to modern standards, with new display cabinets and much improved lighting. We were able to view the Artavasdes II silver tetradrachm and many other important coins that were on display. It is comforting to know that numismatic investigations are continuing, although it is also worth mentioning that the numismatic cabinet requires more space and a few more staff members in order to better accomplish its mission.

Charles A. Hajinian, DDS



Fig. 1. Ruben Vardanyan, Numismatic curator at the History Museum of Armenia (l to r.), Levon Saryan and Charles Hajinian at the Numismatic Cabinet



Fig. 2. Numismatic Cabinet staff members (l to r.), Ruben Vardanyan, Hasmik Hovhannisyan and Armine Zohrabian



Fig. 3. Levon Saryan (left) receives the Werfel Medal from Haik Demoyan, Director of the Armenian Genocide Museum and Institute



Fig. 4. Coinage trussel die from Cilician Armenia in the History Museum collection

Charles A. Hajinian, Numismatic Highlights in Yerevan

# METROLOGY OF COPPER COINAGE OF THE ARTAXIADS OF ARMENIA

## Artavasdes IV and Augustus (A.D. 4-6)

No.	CAA	Metrological Data	Source
		ACV      wt.-diam.-die axis	

No.	CAA	Metrological Data	Source
		ACV      wt.-diam.-die axis	

### **Artavasdes-Augustus**

Copper

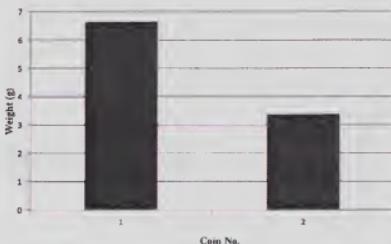
#### 4 Chalci

1      164      6.64g-20ø-12h      CAA164Er  
 Avg. = 6.64g weight  
 Avg. = 20mm diameter  
 Avg. = 1/12h die axis orientation

#### 1 Chalcus

2      181      3.37g-17.5ø-12h      HM  
 Avg. = 3.37g weight  
 Avg. = 17.5mm diameter  
 Avg. = 1/12h die axis orientation

Tot.Avg. =  $10.01+2 = 5.01$ g weight  
 Tot.Avg. =  $37.5+2 = 18.75$ mm diameter  
 Tot.Avg. =  $2/12h$  die axis orientation



Ch. 17.1, Artavasdes IV - Augustus

Table 17.1. Number of coins used to calculate the average weights of Artavasdes IV and Agustus coppers

Coin Rev. Design	Number of coins	$\text{AE}$ Coin Weight
Artavasdes-Augustus	2	5.01g
TOTAL	2	

Table 17.2. Number of coins used to calculate the average diameters of Artavasdes IV and Agustus coppers

Coin Rev. Design	Number of coins	$\text{AE}$ Coin Diameter
Artavasdes-Augustus	2	18.75mm
TOTAL	2	

Table 17.3. Number of coins used to calculate the average die axis orientation of Artavasdes IV and Agustus coppers

Coin Rev. Design	Number of coins	Æ Die Axis Orientation
Artavasdes-Augustus	2	2/12h
TOTAL	2	

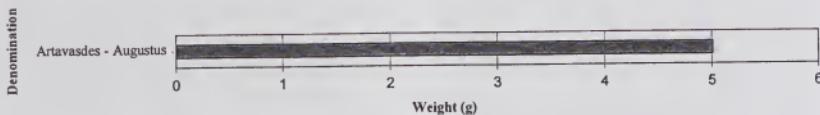


Chart 17.2. Average weights of Artavasdes IV and Agustus copper coins (grams)

## ARMENIAN NUMISMATIC LITERATURE

3 NERCESSIAN, Y. T. Tsop'q'i hay t'agaworut'ian dramnerč [Coinage of the Armenian Kingdom of Sophene (ca. 260-70 B.C.)] - Մովիդի հայ քագաւորութեան դրամները, գրեց Եղիշ Ներսէսեան. *Haigazian Armenological Review*, Vol. 33 (2013), pp. 47-65, pls. 1-3. In Armenian with English summary.

An historical reference is given for each king and all of his known copper coins are catalogued in his coronation. The reverses display the following design: Sames (ca. 260 B.C.), thyrsos of Dionsysos; Arsames I (ca. 240 B.C.), horseman with two varieties, horse's head, and winged thunderbolt; Arsames II (ca. 230 B.C.), horseman, nude figure standing and facing, eagle where the king's bust is left and right, and caps of Dioscuri where the king's bust is left and right; Xerxes (ca. 220 B.C.), Victory, Athena seated and standing; Abdissares (ca. 210 B.C.), eagle and horse's head; Zaradires (ca. 190 B.C.), deity (Anahit ?); Arkathius (ca. 190-175 B.C.), Nike; Morphilig (ca. 150 B.C.), deity (Anahit ?); Artanes (ca. 70 B.C.), no coins; Arsaces (after 70 B.C.), no coins. Metrological data and legends are published.

Author

Պատմական ուրուագիծ մը տրուած է իւրաքանչիւր թագաւորին համար և բոլոր ծանօթ պղնձեայ դրամները դասաւորուած են իր բորբոքասին մէջ՝ կոնակներուն վրայ պատկերուած են հետևեաները. Սամէս (շուրջ 260 Ն.Բ.), պղինձ մը, Դիոնիսոսի մականը. Արշամ Ա (շուրջ 240 Ն.Բ.), ձիաւոր պատկերատիպի երկու տարբերակներով, ձիու զլուխ, և թևաւոր կայժակ. Արշամ Բ (շուրջ 230 Ն.Բ.), ձիաւոր, կանչնած ու հանդիպահայեած մերկ անձ մը, արծիւ ուր արքայի կիսանդրին ուղղուած է դէպի ձմիւ ու աջ, և Դիոնիսորիի գդակները ուր արքայի կիսանդրին ուղղուած է դէպի ձմիւ ու աջ, Քսերքսէս (շուրջ 220 Ն.Բ.), Ցաղթանակ, Աթենասը նասած ու կանչնած. Արշամարէս (շուրջ 210 Ն.Բ.), արծիւ և ձիու զլուխ. Զարէս (շուրջ 190 Ն.Բ.), դիցուհի (Անահիտ ?). Արշամիհաս (շուրջ 190-175 Ն.Բ.), Ցաղթանակ, Մորփիլիկ (շուրջ 150 Ն.Բ.), դիցուհի (Անահիտ ?). Արտանէս (շուրջ 70 Ն.Բ.), դրամ չէ գտնուած. Արշակ (70 Ն.Բ. թ. ետք), դրամ չէ գտնուած. Հրատարակուած են չափագիտական սուեաներն ու խորագրութիւնները. Հեղինակը

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Jan. 2014

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Jan. 2014



Series II

Volume 10 (40), No. 3

September 2014

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ARMENIAN

NUMISMATIC

JOURNAL

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Series II

Vol. 10 (40), No. 3

September 2014

## LETTERS AND E-MAILS TO THE EDITOR

The 250th issue of the Shekel is now being printed in Israel, and we expect to receive them in a few weeks. I have attached a digital copy that includes the article that you are interested in. Please advise if this will suffice or if you need a printed copy as well. If you would like to reprint this article in your journal, I grant you permission if you give proper credit to the author, AINA [American Israel Numismatic Association, Inc.] and indicate our website [www.theshekel.org](http://www.theshekel.org).

Mel Wacks, President

From the copies of your correspondence with Mel Wacks, I understand you will be reprinting my article on the 'Herodian Kings of Armenia' in the *Armenian Numismatic Journal*. This is a great honor for me especially as I was inspired by your excellent work in *Armenian Coins and Their Values*.

I would like to point out that the editor of the Shekel omitted one coin illustration, of Tigranes VI, which I thought was important to the article. It was supposed to appear after the paragraph about Tigranes VI, ending with "... may simply be propaganda devices." This location is below the illustration of the silver didrachm of Nero. I attach the missing photo to this email as FIG. 7, and if it is possible, please include it in your reprint. It is ACV (*Armenian Coins and Their Values*) 162, an AE 20 mm. It is a fine looking coin and will make the article much better.

When it is published please send me 3 offprints for my files. My mailing ...

Marvin Tameanko

## OBITUARY

Valerie Mubayajyan

30-IV-1939 – †22-II-2014

Սրբի դառն կակիծով կը գուժենք հայ դրամագետ Պրեն. Վալերի Մուբայայանի մահուան թօթը: Հանգույցեալը կը տառապէր քաղցկեղն: Ենք հեղինակած է հայ դրամագիտական գիրքը:

ՀՀՀ 2013-ի թիվ 4 պրակտու, նամակների բաժնում, կարդացի Պրեն. Մկրտչյանի՝ Ձեզ ուղղված նամակը, որտեղ նա գրում է, որ մտադրություն է մնեցել Հայաստանի նվիրելի իր ժողովածուն, քայլ 2005-ին այցելելով Հայաստան, իհարափել և ժողովոյի մեջ իշխող կապիտալիստական մասնարդությունից: Այս ապակուրքում հարգարժան պարզուի մոտ ավելի է ամրապնդել՝ որոշ հայրենակացների հետ գրոյներից հետո:

Այրյոր Պրեն. Մկրտչյան այցել է Հայաստանի պատմության բանագան: Իրեն հետաքրքրող խենցի մասին՝ նա կարող էր ամենի իրավան և նոյնական պատկերացում ստանալ հենց բանգարանում. որը Հայաստանի մշակութային արժեթերթի զգայի մասի, այս թվում Սփյուռքի հայրապետ Հայրենակացներից Քեջիք տասնմասկենթի ընթացքում ստացված հազարակը նվիրապետություններից, գլխավոր շտաբանների է: Քանի ապահով պահպու նա, դրանց մի մասը Եթերակացներ է բանգարանի ցուցանություններ, և այս նորքերն աստիճանաբար ուսումնասիրում ու հաստարակում են բանգարանի աշխատակիցների կողմից: Հրամագիտության բաժինը, մասնակիութապես, իր ժողովածուից նյութեր է տրամադրել նաև այլ գիտնականների. գոյուրյուն մնեցող որոշակի կարգի սահմաններում:

→

ARMENIAN NUMISMATIC JOURNAL is the quarterly publication of Armenian Numismatic Society, an educational, non-profit organization. Editor, Y. T. Nercessian, 8511 Beverly Park Place, Pico Rivera, CA 90660-1920, USA (webpage: [www.ArmNumSoc.org/](http://www.ArmNumSoc.org/); e-mail: [ArmNumSoc@aol.com](mailto:ArmNumSoc@aol.com)). Associate Editors, W. Gewenian and T. Nercessian, Corresponding Editors, L. A. Saryan. Non-member subscriptions \$70/80 per year. ISSN 0884-0180—LCCN 85-649443

## LETTERS AND E-MAILS TO THE EDITOR

Ես չեմ կարող պմդել, որ Պրմ. Ալբոգյանը փոխի իր մտադրությունը, քայլ և ամենդրութելի եմ համարում Հայաստանյան իրավամերյան բոլոր բնագավառների ու հաստատությունների վերաբերյալ բյուր կարծիք տարածելու:

Ռուբեն Վարդանյան

In the letters section of ANJ 2013 No. 4, I read Mr. Sevruyan's letter addressed to you, where he writes that he had an intention to donate his collection to Armenia, but he visited Armenia in 2005 and "was sad about the impression that people there have embraced a capitalistic mentality in its crudest manner". Well, and other compatriots to whom he talked have asserted this impression and this made him change his original plan to let Armenia have all his collections.

Has Mr. Sevruyan ever visited the History Museum of Armenia? He could get a more realistic and authentic picture about the matters interesting him right in the Museum, which is the main repository for a significant part of the Armenian cultural heritage and includes thousands of donations made in recent decades from hundreds of compatriots of the Diaspora. These museum pieces are kept secure; part of them is exhibited at the Museum. These cultural treasures are gradually studied and published by the Museum's scientific staff. The Numismatic Department, in particular, has always provided materials from its collection to other scientists as well, within the limits of certain regulations.

I cannot insist that Mr. Sevruyan changed his mind, but I consider the spreading of distorting opinions on all spheres and institutions in Armenian reality unacceptable.

Ruben Vardanyan

Ստացա Ձեր ուղարկած փաքերը՝ ՀԴՀ 2014-ի առաջին պրակով և հոդվածների առանձնահայրով: Ընթրակակիցոյն:

Այս անգամ ևս, Դուր ահանդեկ եկած պատրաստ ինձ համար: Խորու Հայութարարության մասին է, որը տարավձել է Հայ Դրամագիտական Ընկերակցության և Ձեր անունից:

Ինձ զարմացրեց Հայութարարության առաջանելու ոճը: Արդյո՞ք թնկերակցության բոլոր անդամները միահամար պաշտպանել են Հայութարարության մեջ արտահայտված մոքերը: Չի եղել գեր մեկը, որն այլ կարծիք ունի: Մի՞ թե գիտական հարցերը հայութարարություններով են վճռվում: Ես ի սկզբան դրանոր Զարքե Պատուակը կյիմքը Հայաստանի Պատուական Թանգարակի տնօրենին և հետ կահանջեք իր ավելոր Թանգարակի տնօրենի չեղանակ գիտական հետազոտությունների պատության վրա, և չեմ հավատում, թե Երշանկահաշվառակ Զ. Պատուակը կարող էր դիմել նման «պատճիչ արշավակիրի» Հայաստանի Պատուական Թանգարակի դեմ, եթե անզամ չընդուներ այդ դրամների մասին իմ արտահայտած տեսակտը:

Կարեի էր ավելին ասել Հայութարարության մեջ արտահայտված սարիշ և անհետանի մոքերի մասին, քայլ սահմանափակվում եմ այսպահով, քանի որ, իմ խորին համոզմաք, գիտական հարցերի թնարկումը պես է ընթան միշտայն գիտական մակարդակում:

Ռուբեն Վարդանյան

I received the package you sent: ANJ No. 1 (2014) and offprints of articles. Thank you.

Once again, you prepared a surprise for me. I'm talking about the Announcement that you made on behalf of the Armenian Numismatic Society and the ANJ Editor.

I was surprised at its aggressive style. Did all members of the Society unanimously support the thoughts expressed in the Announcement? Wasn't there a single person who had a different opinion? Do you think that scientific issues are decided by an Announcement? And what does it mean – "Dr. Paul Z. Bedoukian would protest to the director of the History Museum of Armenia and may well request the return of the gold coin that he donated"? The Museum's director does not suppress the freedom of scientific research, and I do not believe that the late Dr. Paul Z. Bedoukian would have gone to the «punitive expedition» against the History Museum of Armenia even if he had not accepted my opinion about these coins.

I could say more about provocative and short-sighted ideas expressed in the Announcement, but I'm limiting myself, because in my deepest conviction, the discussion of scientific questions should take place only on a scientific level.

Ruben Vardanyan

## PRE-CORONATION TRAMS OF LEVON II

Y. T. NERCESSIAN

Plate 7

### Historical Background to Numismatic Literature

In 1266 there was a war between the Mamluks and Armenians. King Hetoum I was visiting the Ilkhanids in Iran. During the war the two sons of Hetoum, Toros and Levon, raised an army to meet the enemy. Prince Toros was killed and Levon was taken prisoner. In 1269, Levon returned from Mamluk captivity.<sup>1</sup> In the same year, Hetoum I retired to a monastery and died on October 28, 1270. Levon II (1270-1289), became the next king of Cilician Armenia. Levon II trams with Queen Zabel and King Hetoum design, but with legend ԼԵՎՈՆ (Levon), were apparently struck during a period between the retirement of Hetoum I and the coronation of Levon II (January 6, 1271).

The pre-coronation coin of Hetoum-Zabel design type was mentioned and catalogued for the first time by Paul Z. Bedoukian in 1962;<sup>2</sup> not surprisingly, only six examples were listed. Throughout all known Armenian numismatic works, no one had mentioned this type of coin of Levon II. As early as 1843,<sup>3</sup> the new silver tram and copper kardez of Levon II were published in a major Armenian numismatic work.

The pre-coronation tram of Levon II is an extremely rare coin, and the design is similar to the later silver trams of Queen Zabel and King Hetoum. It is possible that some collectors who do not read Armenian may have this coin, but not realize it. Also, the inscription may not be easy to read unless the coin is well struck, the king's name is legible, and well preserved. It is possible that this type of coin is more plentiful than the examples offered in present catalogue suggest.

In 1971, Bedoukian published a summarized handbook dedicated to medieval Armenian coins.<sup>4</sup> One example of a Levon II pre-coronation tram was included. Since then, for two decades, it was not mentioned in any numismatic literature.

In 1995, Y. T. Nercessian published his book, *Armenian Coins and Their Values*.<sup>5</sup> He catalogued one single example of Levon II pre-coronation tram. He noted that there are 14 known examples.

<sup>1</sup> For historical background on Levon II see Vahan M. Kurkjian, *A History of Armenia* (New York, 1974), pp. 246-250; Jacques de Morgan, *The History of the Armenian People* (Boston, 1965), pp. 237-240; Sirarpie Der Nersessian, "The Kingdom of Cilician Armenia," *A History of the Crusades*, Vol. II (Philadelphia, 1962), pp. 654-655.

<sup>2</sup> Paul Z. Bedoukian, *Coinage of Cilician Armenia* (hereafter CCA) (New York, 1962; Armenian edition Vienna, 1963; revised English edition, Danbury, Connecticut, 1979), p. 290, Nos. 1424-1427.

<sup>3</sup> Albrecht Kraft, "Armenische Münzen der rupenischen Dynastie in Cilicien," *Anzeige-Blatt für Wissenschaft und Kunst* (1843), No. CIII, pp. 1-29, pls. I-II.

<sup>4</sup> Paul Z. Bedoukian, *Medieval Armenian Coins* (Paris, 1971), reprinted from *Revue des Études Arméniennes*, New Series, Vol. VIII (1971), p. 33; also in SNS [I], p. 222, No. 60.

<sup>5</sup> Y. T. Nercessian, *Armenian Coins and Their Values* [ACV] (Los Angeles, 1995), 254 pp., 48 pls.

In 2004, M.-L. Garabedian published the Zoubov collection of Roupenian coins, where she listed an example of Levon II pre-coronation tram. There was no illustration, but the metrological data was published.<sup>6</sup>

In 2008, the *Catalogue of Armenian Coins* collected by Y. T. Nercessian listed only one example of this type.<sup>7</sup>

The inventory of known Levon II pre-coronation tram has climbed to 22. The increase has been due to the appearance of this type of coin in auction catalogues and private collections. Sadly, photographs of four examples are not available to the author. Let us hope that after the publication of this brief study, some more examples of this extremely rare coin will surface.

Other Levon II coins struck in silver and copper<sup>8</sup> are known, but are beyond the scope of this paper.

#### Coin Description

Obv.: Lion walking r., crowned, with l. paw uplifted. No cross behind lion. No star under lion. Clockwise legend,  
+ ԼԵՒՈՎ ԹԱԳԱԼՈՒ ՀԱՅ (Levon king of the Armenians).  
On some scarce varieties the legend reads, ԼԵՒՈՎ ԹԱԳԱԼՈՒ ՀԱՅՈՑ Է (Levon is king of the Armenians).

Rev.: Queen Zabel standing on l. facing. King Hetoum standing on r. facing. Both are crowned and wearing royal vestments, and holding a long cross. Clockwise legend,  
+ ԿԱՐՈՂՈՒ ԻԹԻՒ ԱՅ (by the will of God).

#### Cataloguing the Coins

Information on the pre-coronation coins of Levon II has been retrieved mostly from Bedoukian's CCA, sale and auction catalogues, other scholarly works and papers, private collections, and the author's collection.

The aim of this paper is to bring together all of the known information on these coins. The present corpus has been prepared from printed photographs and author's collection.

Bedoukian's classification, according to completeness of legend, was used to catalogue the obverse-reverse inscriptions.<sup>9</sup>

The first column in the catalogue gives the assigned specimen number. The second column references the corpus number of Bedoukian's *Coinage of Cilician Armenia*. The reverse Armenian legend is at the top of the block of coins, starting with specimen number. The reverse cross patterns are given in the fifth column. The obverse sign of cross and the Armenian inscription is printed in the third column. Metrological data is presented in the fourth column. The last column gives the source where each coin is preserved or listed.

<sup>6</sup> M. L. Garabedian, "B. V. Zoubov's Roupenian Coin Collection," Part III (Levon II, Hetoum II, Smpad, Gosdantin I), *Armenian Numismatic Journal*, Vol. XXX (2004), No. 2, pp. 29-44.

<sup>7</sup> *Catalogue of Armenian Coins Collected by Y. T. Nercessian*, (Los Angeles, 2008), 387 pp., 128 pls.

<sup>8</sup> For coinage of Levon II see Bedoukian, CCA, Nos. 1424-1554; Nercessian, ACV, Nos. 367-393.

<sup>9</sup> Bedoukian, CCA, p. 290, Nos. 1424-1427.

CATALOGUE

No.	CCA	Reverse Legend	W-D-A (g-mm-h)	Reverse Cross	Source
<b>+ԿԱՐՈՂՈՒ—ԹԻՒ Ա.Յ Է</b>					
1*	1424	❖ԼԵՒՈՆ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՑ Է		+	AD 325
2*	1424	❖ԼԵՒՈՆ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՑ Է 2.83		+	CNG58-1517
3*	1424	❖ԼԵՒՈՆ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՑ Է		+	WM CCA1424
<b>+ԿԱՐՈՂՈՒ—ԹԻՒ Ա.Յ Է</b>					
4*	1424	❖ԼԵՒՈՆ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ ՀԱՅՈ	2.70-22-10	+	JC coll.
<b>+ԿԱՐՈՂՈՒ—ԻԹԻՒ Ա.Յ</b>					
5*	1425	❖ԼԵՒՈՆ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ ՀԱՅՈ	2.99	+	CNG27-156
<b>+ԿԱՐՈՂՈՒ—ԻԹԻՒ Ա.Յ</b>					
6*	1425v	❖ԼԵՒՈՆ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ ՀԱՅՈ	3.00-21-1	+	CNG85-112, YN5966
7*	1427/26	❖ԼԵՒՈՆ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ ՀԱՅ	2.96-21-7	+	YNCat1217
<b>+ԿԱՐՈՂՈՒ—ԻԹԻՒ Ա.Յ</b>					
8*	1425	❖ԼԵՒՈՆ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ ՀԱՅՈ		+	ANS, CCA1425
9*	1425	❖ԼԵՒՈՆ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ ՀԱՅՈ	2.76	+	LS ACV368
10	1426	❖ԼԵՒՈՆ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ ՀԱՅ		+	ANS, CCA1426
<b>+ԿԱՐՈՂՈՒ—ՂԹԻՒ Ա.Յ</b>					
11*	1426v	❖ԼԵՒՈՆ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ Ա.Յ	3.02	+	CNG36-816
12*	1426v	❖ԼԵՒՈՆ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ Ա.Յ	2.87	+	Slocum516
13*	1427	❖ԼԵՒՈՆ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ Հ	2.68-23-11:3	+	JC coll.
14*	1427	❖ԼԵՒՈՆ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ Հ	3.00	×	PB MAC60,
15*	1427	❖ԼԵՒՈՆ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ Հ	2.91	×	Slocum515
16*	1427	❖ԼԵՒՈՆ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ Հ	2.96-21-7	×	AD326
17	1427	❖ԼԵՒՈՆ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ Հ		×	KK CCA1427
18	1427	❖ԼԵՒՈՆ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ Հ		×	PB CCA1427
19*	1427	❖ԼԵՒՈՆ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ Հ		×	CCA1427,AD327
<b>+ԿԱՐՈՂՈՒ—ԹԻՒ Ա.Յ</b>					
20*	1427v	❖ԼԵՒՈՆ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ ՀԱՅՈ	2.88-20.8-8.5	+	CH coll.
21*	1427v	❖ԼԵՒՈՆ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ Հ	2.97	+	CNG36-817
<b>+ԿԱՐՈՂՈՒ—ՂԹԻՒ Ա.Յ</b>					
22	1427v	❖ԼԵՒՈՆ Ա.Ի.ՈՐ Հ	2.75-23-5	+	Zu-III-1

We would like to make a comment about the quality of some coin pictures. All photographs reproduced and printed in this paper are the only known coin pictures available available to us. Our aim has been to catalogue and illustrate as many pictures as we could. Unfortunately, the photographic quality of many of the coins illustrated leaves a lot to be desired. However, because of the rarity of these coins, we tried to include all of the published photographs.

### Stylistic Analysis

The design of pre-coronation trams of Levon II is quite uniform. On the obverse is a crowned lion walking right with left paw uplifted. The inscription includes Levon's name inscribed in Armenian. The most conspicuous difference is noticed in the cross patterns of the inscription circle (see the catalogue).

The reverse design depicts Queen Zabel and King Hetoum standing and holding a long cross. However, there are very minor design variations with the long cross, as tabulated in the catalogue. No significant difference is noticed from the conventional legends on Hetoum-Zabel trams.

### Metrology

The metrology of pre-coronation trams have been published for 10 pieces in our metrology book.<sup>10</sup> However, since we had a few extra pre-coronation trams in our present study, we thought it might be a good idea to double check the work done some years ago.

The average weight of 15 pre-coronation trams is 2.89 grams, in the metrology book it is 2.89 grams for 10 pieces.

The average diameter of 7 pre-coronation trams is 21.69 mm, in the metrology book it is 21 mm for one piece.

The die axis orientation reading for Cilician Armenian coins have been erratic. We have 1/1h, 1/5h, 2/7h, 1/8:30h, 1/10, 1/11:30 for 7 coins. In our metrology book for one coin we have 1/7h.

### ABBREVIATIONS

ACV—Nercessian, Y. T., *Armenian Coins and Their Values* [ACV] (Los Angeles, 1995), 254 pp., 48 pls.

AD—Asbed Donabedian Collection. Spink & Son, Ltd. “Ancient and Medieval Coins from the Collection of Professor Asbed Donabedian (1923-1993).”

ANS—American Numismatic Society collection in New York.

CCA—Paul Z. Bedoukian, *Coinage of Cilician Armenia*. New York: American Numismatic Society, *Numismatic Notes and Monographs*, No. 147, 1962. Revised edition, Danbury, Connecticut: 1979. *Kilikian Hayastani dramneré* [Coinage of Cilician Armenia] - Կիլիկիան Հայաստանի դրամները. Vienna: Mekhitarist Press, 1963 (text in Armenian, the corpus and plates in English).

CH—Chuck Hajinian collection.

<sup>10</sup> Nercessian, *Metrology of Cilician Armenian Coinage*, p. 66.



Y. T. Nercessian, Pre-Coronation Trams of Levon II

CNG—Classical Numismatic Group, Inc. *Auction 27* (September 29, 1993), 36 (December 5-6, 1995), 58 (September 19, 2001), 85 (September 15, 2010).

KK—K. Kalajian collection.

LS—Levon Saryan collection.

MAC—Paul Z. Bedoukian, *Medieval Armenian Coins (Paris, 1971)*, reprinted from *Revue des Études Arméniennes*, New Series, Vol. VIII (1971), pp. 365-431; also in SNS [I], pp. 191-268.

PB—Paul Bedoukian collection.

Slocum—Sotheby's. *The John J. Slocum Collection of Coins of the Crusades*. London: March, 1997.

SNS [I]—Paul Z. Bedoukian, *Selected Numismatic Studies* [SNS [I]]. Los Angeles: Armenian Numismatic Society, *Special Publication*, No. 1, 1981, 570 pp.

WM—Mekhitarist Congregation collection in Vienna.

YNCat—*Catalogue of Armenian Coins Collected by Y. T. Nercessian*. Los Angeles: Armenian Numismatic Society, *Special Publication*, No. 14, 2008, 387 pp., 128 pls.

YN—Y. T. Nercessian collection.

Zu—Garabedian, M. L., “P. V. Zubovi շւենիանի դրամների ժողովածուն” [B. V. Zoubov's Roupenian Coin Collection] - “Պ. Վ. Զուբովի ոռուբեննեան դրամների ժողովածուն,” Part III (Levon II, Hetoum II, Smpad, Gospantin I), *Armenian Numismatic Journal*, Vol. XXX (2004), No. 2, pp. 29-44.

## ԼԵՒՈՆ Բ-Ի ՆԱԽԱ-ՕՇՄԱՆ ԴՐԱՄՆԵՐԸ

[Ամփոփում]

Ներկայ աշխատանքին նպատակը եղած է համախմբել բոլոր տեղեկութիւնները և պատրաստել քօրփուս մը Հեռու Բ-Ի նախա-օծման դրամներուն: Դրամները դասաւորուեցան ըստ Զարեհ Պոռուկեանի գործադրած խորագութեանց ամբողջականութեան ծրագիրին, զոր կարելի է նույնարել իր կիրիկեան Հայաստանի դրամները մենագութեան քօրփուին մէջ:

Հեռու Բ-Ի նախա-օծման դրամը հայ դրամագիտութեան չափազանց հազուագիւտ դրամներէն մէկն է: 1962-ին Զարեհ Պոռուկեան առաջին անգամ հրատարակեց ինդրոյ առարկայ դրամը իր կիրիկեան Հայաստանի դրամները զիթխարի բանասիրութեան մէջ:

Հեռու Բ-Ի նախա-օծման դրամը նման է Հեթում թագուարին և Զապէլ թագուէհին արծաթեայ դրամին: Սակայն վրայի արծանագրութիւնը «Ե՛ՌՈՒ ԹԱԳԱՒՌՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՑ ՀԵ» է: Թերեւս հաւաքորդներէն ոմանք որ չեն կարող հայերէն արծանագրութիւնը ընթերցել՝ հաւանաբար չեն կարողացած սոյն դրամը ճանչնալ իրենց հաւաքածոյին մէջ և վերագրել իր տիրակալին: Եթէ դրամը հաստանումը վաստորակ է, արծանագրութիւնը յստակ է, կամ ալ լաւ պահպանածութիւն չունի՝ զժուարին գործ է զայն զատորոշել Հեթում-Զապէլի հասարակ արծաթեայ դրամներէն:

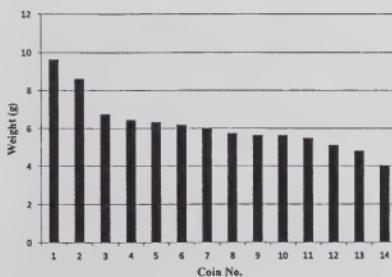
1995-ին Ներսէսէնան հրատարակեց իր գիրքը, նույիրուած հայկական դրամներու լուկայական արժէքին: Հոս յիշուած է, թէ Հեռու Բ-Ի նախա-օծման դրամին քանակը 14 կտոր է: Ներկալիս, ըստ մեր դասաւորութեան՝ 2013ին հաշուեկլիրը բարձրացած է 22 կտորի: Յաւելումները յայտնաբերուած են անօրդային կատալոգներու ցուցակագրութիւններէն և սեփական ժողովածուններէն:

Ե. Թ. Ներսէսէնան

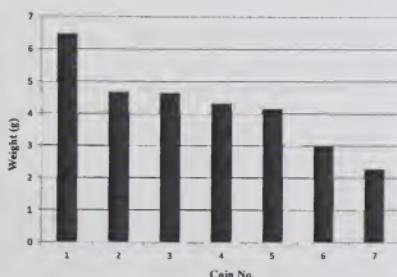
# METROLOGY OF COPPER COINAGE OF THE ARTAXIADS OF ARMENIA

## Tigranes IV and Erato (2 B.C. - A.D. 1)

No.	CAA ACV	Metrological Data wt.-diam.-die axis	Source	No.	CAA ACV	Metrological Data wt.-diam.-die axis	Source
<b>Fortune Seated</b>							
<u>4 Chalci</u>							
1	161	9.65g-20ø	ADTII-TIV22			Tot.Avg. = 86.58+14 = 6.18g weight	
2	161	8.63g-17.5ø	ADArtxZ12			Tot.Avg. = 163.9+9 = 18.21mm diameter	
1	178	7.30	Gorny212-2256			Tot.Avg. = 2/12h, 1/1h (3) die axis orient.	
3	178	6.78g-18ø-1h	Kovacs I-8				
			KovacsIII-16a				
4	161	6.46g	CAA161JG				
5	161	6.34g	CAA161PB				
6	161	6.20g-19ø	BS-TIV.Er				
7	161	6.03g	CAA161PB				
Avg. = 50.09+7 = 7.16g weight							
Avg. = 74.5+4 = 18.63mm diameter							
Avg. = 1/1h die axis orientation							
<u>2 Chalci</u>							
8	161	5.75g-18.3ø	ADArtxZ9				
9	161	5.63g-19.6ø-12h	Er19031/28				
10	161	5.63g	CAA161PB				
11	161	5.49g	CAA161BN				
12	178	5.12g-16ø-12h	YNCat270				
13	178	4.82g-18ø	CNG46-698				
14	161	4.05g-17.5ø	ADArtxZ10				
Avg. = 36.49+7 = 5.21g weight							
Avg. = 89.4+5 = 17.88mm diameter							
Avg. = 2/12h die axis orientation							
<u>1 Chalcus</u>							
6	162	3.02g					
7	162	2.28g-15ø-12h	CNG85-47				
Avg. = 5.30+2 = 2.65g weight							
Avg. = 15mm diameter							
Avg. = 1/12h die axis orientation							



Ch. 16.1, Fortune seated



Ch. 16.2, Half horse

*Tigranes IV and Erato (2 B.C. - A.D. 1)*

No.	CAA	Metrological Data	Source
	ACV	wt.-diam.-die axis	

Tot.Avg. =  $29.56+7 = 4.22$ g weight  
 Tot.Avg. =  $98.5+6 = 16.42$ mm diameter  
 Tot.Avg. =  $2/12h$ ,  $1/1h$  (3) die axis orient.

**Mt. Argaeus or Ararat**

4 Chalci

1	128	8.88g-21ø	AC&B19-38
2	128	6.90g-19.5ø	JN121PC
3	126	6.35g-19ø-11h	Kovacs I-6
4	128	6.28g-20ø-11h	HM
Avg. = $28.41+4 = 7.10$ g weight			
Avg. = $79.5+4 = 19.88$ mm diameter			
Avg. = $2/11h$ die axis orientation			

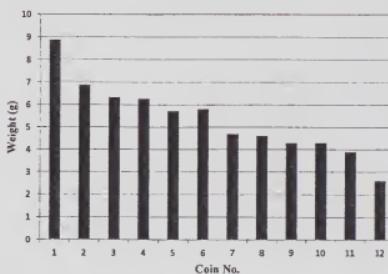
2 Chalci

5	122	5.72g-19ø	CNG61-904
6	128	5.81g	Gorny160-1656
7	128	4.70g	CAA128PB
8	---	4.61g-18ø	KovacsIII-5dSK
9	128	4.31g-17ø	CNG46-701
10	128	4.31g-17ø-12h	YNCat218
11	128	3.91g-17ø-12h	YNCat219
Avg. = $33.37+7 = 4.77$ g weight			
Avg. = $88+5 = 17.6$ mm diameter			
Avg. = $2/12h$ die axis orientation			

No.	CAA	Metrological Data	Source
	ACV	wt.-diam.-die axis	

1 Chalcus  
 12 128 2.62g-19ø-11h TG382  
 Avg. = 2.62g weight  
 Avg. = 19mm diameter  
 Avg. =  $1/11h$  die axis orient.

Tot.Avg. =  $64.40+12 = 5.37$ g weight  
 Tot.Avg. =  $186.5+10 = 18.65$ mm diameter  
 Tot.Avg. =  $3/11h$ ,  $2/12h$  (5) die axis orientation



Ch. 16.3. Mt. Argaeus or Ararat

Table 16.1. Number of coins used to calculate the average weights of Tigranes IV-Erato coppers

Coin Rev. Design	Number of coins	Æ Coin Weight
Fortune Seated	14	6.18g
Half Horse	7	4.22g
Mt. Argaeus or Ararat	12	5.37g
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>33</b>	

Table 16.2. Number of coins used to calculate the avg. diameters of Tigranes IV-Erato cop.

Coin Rev. Design	Number of coins	Æ Coin Diameter
Fortune Seated	6	18.11mm
Half Horse	6	16.42mm
Mt. Argaeus or Ararat	10	18.65mm
TOTAL	22	

Table 16.3. Number of coins used to calculate the average die axis orientation of Tigranes IV-Erato coppers

Coin Rev. Design	Number of coins	Æ Die Axis Orientation
Fortune Seated	3	2/12h, 1/1h
Half Horse	3	2/12h, 1/1h
Mt. Argaeus or Ararat	5	3/11h, 2/12h
TOTAL	11	

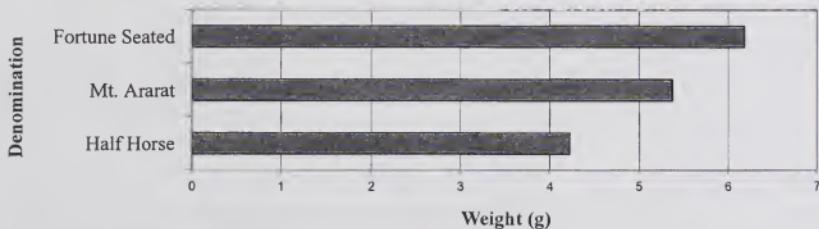


Chart 16.4. Average weights of Tigranes IV-Erato copper coins (grams)

## SOME WORDS ABOUT THE SECOND SILVER DOUBLE TRAM OF ARMENIAN KING GOSDANTIN I

Plates 8-9

In memory of and dedicated to "real" friends.  
M. İskender TARGAÇ<sup>1</sup>

**Introduction** M. İskender Targaç

The science of numismatics provides the best support for archaeology as well as history. This paper is a typical example of this symbiosis. During close examination of the content of a small "find" consisting of only twenty coins, found in the ancient Cilician town of Tarsus, we found that one of these coins has a particular and peculiar importance. This coin is a silver double tram belonging to the comparatively lesser known Armenian King Gosdantin I (1298–1299 AD). This is only the second known example of Gosdantin I's silver double trams (the first one having been published by Levon A. Saryan<sup>2</sup> in 2000.<sup>3</sup>) and has different dies from the first.

### How the Double Tram was Found and Came Into My Hands

The above-mentioned double tram and the associated find of nineteen other coins have unforgettable memories for me, related to one of my old friends, now passed away, who was a Turkish citizen of Armenian origin. Particularly in the numismatic field, we had mutually supportive and extremely good relations, and while he was sick, almost near the end of his life, he presented to me as a gift this find together with some documents written in Armenian. Considering that the focus of this paper is numismatics, I will leave the examination of those documents<sup>4</sup> to a separate study, since it is not exactly known whether all of them are relevant to the subject find.

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<sup>1</sup> The author is a numismatist, researcher and writer on history of Anatolia, and a collector of coins, seals, and small objects found in Anatolia. He served as Secretary General of the Turkish Numismatic Society (TNS), from 2000 to 2002 and is founding Secretary General of the Association of Collectors of Antiquities. His collection, "Collectus Nummus - Anatolian Originated Coins, Seals and Small Finds," is registered in the Istanbul Archaeological Museums and is particularly rich in the coins of the Beyliks and stamp seals. <http://independent.academia.edu/iskendertargac> (isktar@gmail.com).

<sup>2</sup> The author expresses sincere thanks to Levon Saryan for his kind assistance during the preparation of this article.

<sup>3</sup> Saryan 2000, pp. 195 – 204, 1 pl. A paper on this coin was also presented by L. A. Saryan on January 15, 2008, at the International Conference on the Culture of Cilician Armenia, sponsored by the Armenian Catholicosate of Cilicia located in Antelias, Lebanon.

<sup>4</sup> The subject documents are: a photo of the small farm in which the coins had reportedly been found, a 1906 (H 1324) dated Ottoman property deed of the same farm in Arabic letters, and three patriarchal documents dated 1881, 1887 and 1895. The later is an Encyclical letter of Roman Catholic Pope Leo XIII (2 March 1810 – 20 July 1903), regarding the eastern Christian church from 1895, signed and sealed by Stephen Peter Azarian (Stepan Bedros) (1881-1899) 10th Patriarch-Catholicos of Catholic Armenians in Cilicia.

It was told to me that the coins were not recently discovered but inherited, together with the documents, by my friend from his grandfather. Afterwards, I added those coins to my personal collection, which is entirely registered in the Istanbul Archaeological Museums.

This group of coins is not a true hoard. The coins in the find were reportedly discovered at a farm in Tarsus<sup>5</sup> at different times, while farmers were digging their fields, and saved by the first owner. It is unknown how my friend's grandfather acquired those, but we do know that my friend inherited the coins from his grandparents.

#### The Content of the “Find”

The 20 coins in the “find” are as follows<sup>6</sup>:

- IT-CN-01125. Cilician Armenia, Levon I, 1199–1219, NM, ND, AR two-lion tram, artistic style, 2.90 gr., 21/22 mm. Bedoukian CCA 224.<sup>7</sup>
- IT-CN-01126. Cilician Armenia, Levon I, 1199–1219, NM, ND, AR two-lion tram, distinctive style, 2.92 gr., 21/22 mm. Bedoukian CCA 441 var.
- IT-CN-01127. Cilician Armenia, Levon I, 1199–1219, NM, ND, AR two-lion tram, non-artistic style, upside down reverse legend, 3.01 gr., 21/22 mm. Bedoukian CCA 678a.
- IT-CN-03860. Cilician Armenia, Levon I, 1199–1219, Sis<sup>8</sup>, ND, AE tank, 7.86 gr., 29/31 mm, Bedoukian CCA 743.
- IT-CN-03861. Cilician Armenia, Levon I, 1199–1219, Sis, ND, AE tank, 6.49 gr., 28/29 mm, unlisted in Bedoukian CCA; the obverse of this coin has 9 pellets in the king's crown.
- IT-CN-01163. Cilician Armenia, Hetoum I, 1226–1270, AR Bilingual tram (citing the Anatolian Seljuq Kaykhusraw II as overlord), Sis, 639 AH (1241–1242), 2.59 gr., 24 mm. Album 1221. Bedoukian CCA 806–813.
- IT-CN-01494. Cilician Armenia, Hetoum I, 1226–1270, AR Bilingual tram (citing the Anatolian Seljuq Kaykhusraw II as overlord), Sis, 639 AH (1241–1242), 2.80 gr., 24/25 mm. Album 1221. Bedoukian CCA 806–813.
- IT-CN-03862. Cilician Armenia, Hetoum I, 1226–1270, Sis, ND, AE equestrian kardez, 2.69 gr., 23/24 mm. Unlisted in Bedoukian CCA; this coin has a spelling error in the obverse legend.

<sup>5</sup> The ancient name of the city is Tarsos, derived from "Tarsa", the original name of the city in the Hittite language, which was possibly derived from a pagan god, Tarku. At other times the city was named Tarsisi; Antiochia on the Cydnus (Greek: Αντιόχεια του Κύδνου, Latin: Antiochia ad Cyndum); Juliopolis, Suprunlu, (Darson in Armenian.) It is an ancient city of Cilicia (today south central Turkey) located 20 km inland from the Mediterranean Sea.

<sup>6</sup> Each coin in this find is numbered starting with the abbreviation IT-CN, indicating the subject coin's exact place within the İskender Targaç "Collectus Nummus," collection.

<sup>7</sup> The Armenian coins described here are classified according to Paul Z. Bedoukian, *Coinage of Cilician Armenia*, revised edition, (Danbury, CT: 1979) as their states of preservation permit.

<sup>8</sup> The city of Sis is now known as Kozan. It was the capital city of Cilician Armenia and location of its principal mint. It was also the center of the Catholicosate of the Great House of Cilicia for more than six centuries starting in 1293, after the Catholicosate moved from Hromgla to Sis.

- IT-CN-00117. Seljuks of Rum, Rukn al-Din Qilich Arslan IV, First sole reign, AH 646-647. AR dirhem, Sivas, AH 646 (1248-1249). 2.80 gr., 23 mm. CMM 1843; Album 1226.
- IT-CN-01162. Seljuks of Rum, Rukn al-Din Qilich Arslan IV, First sole reign, AH 646-647. AR dirhem, Sivas, AH 646 (1248-1249). 2.80 gr., 23.0 mm. CMM 1843; Album 1226.
- IT-CN-03864. Cilician Armenia, Levon II, 1270-1289, NM, ND, AR half tram (struck with tram dies), 1.09 gr., 15/16 mm. Bedoukian CCA 1524.
- IT-CN-01213. Cilician Armenia, Levon II, 1270-1289, NM, ND, AR half tram, 1.20 gr., 16 mm. Bedoukian CCA 1531.
- IT-CN-03863. Cilician Armenia, Hetoum II, 1289-1293, NM, ND, BI denier, 0.61 gr., 16/17 mm. Bedoukian CCA 1575a similar.
- IT-CN-00289. Cilician Armenia, Hetoum II, 1289-1293, Sis, ND, AE kardez, 3.41 gr., 24 mm. Bedoukian CCA 1594-1596a.
- IT-CN-03887. Cilician Armenia, Smpad, 1296-1298, Sis, ND, AE kardez, 2.01 gr., 18/20 mm. Bedoukian CCA 1692a or similar.
- IT-CN-03894. Cilician Armenia, Gосdantin I, 1298-1299, NM, ND, AR double tram, 5.31 gr., 25/26 mm. Unlisted in Bedoukian CCA; only the second known example of this type.
- IT-CN-03891. Cilician Armenia, Oshin, 1308-1320, Sis, ND, AR takvorin, 2.33 gr., 18/19 mm. Bedoukian CCA 1923.
- IT-CN-01129. Cilician Armenia, Oshin, 1308-1320, Sis, ND, AR takvorin, 2.41 gr., 21/24 mm. Bedoukian CCA 1912 or 1914b.
- IT-CN-03826. Cilician Armenia, Gосdantin IV, 1365-1371, Sis, ND, BI Takvorin, 1.60 gr., 17/22 mm. Bedoukian CCA 2190 or similar.
- IT-CN-03888. Cyprus, Jacob(us) (James II, King of Cyprus and Palestine), 1460-1473, AE sixain, Cyprus, ND, 1.81 gr., 19/20 mm. Metcalf (1995)<sup>9</sup> 808-811.

The coins in the find, illustrated in Plate I, indicate that the find covers the period of Levon I to James II, (1198 to 1473), and therefore the coins may have been unearthed any time after 1473.

#### Silver Double Tram of Gосdantin I

In the field of Armenian numismatics, there are limited sources. In the nineteenth century, Victor Langlois' two well-known books; *Numismatique de l'Arménie dans L'Antiquité* (1859) and *Numismatique de l'Arménie au Moyen âge* (1855) were combined into one work in 1859; they cover coins issued by ancient Armenian dynasties, Kiurike and Cilician Armenia.

K. J. Basmajian's *Numismatique Générale de L'Arménie* (1936) was followed by the best source which was prepared by Dr. Paul Z. Bedoukian (1962) covering the Armenian coinage in Cilicia. In his marvelous corpus, Bedoukian listed about 12,000 coins existing in museums and private collections. Subsequently, Y. T. Nercessian's *Armenian Coins and Their Values* (1995), covered the gap of decades in the same field.

<sup>9</sup> David M. Metcalf, *Coinage of the Crusades and the Latin East* (1995).

However, none of these books mention a Gosdantin I silver double tram, which only came to light in 2000 in a publication by Levon Saryan, as I pointed out in the introductory paragraph of this paper. The Gosdantin I silver double tram described here is just the second example of this type ever revealed and due to its existing die differences, which will be discussed below, it has particular importance in the numismatic world.



Fig. 1 - Silver Double Tram of Gosdantin I  
AR double tram, mint not indicated, no date, 5.31 gr., 25/26 mm.

Obverse: Equestrian king on horseback, walking right, brandishing a sword in right hand. Three pellets in the shape of a triangle between the horses front and back legs.

+ԿՈՍՏԱՆԴԻԱՆՈՒ ԹԱԳՄ ՀԱՅՈՑ - (+ GOSDANTIANOS TAKAVOR HAYOTS,  
Gosdantin King of Armenians).

Reverse: Crowned king standing facing, wearing royal vestments, holding sword and cross, in left and right hands respectively. Three pellets in the shape of a triangle each in the lower left and right fields, near the king's feet.

+ԿՈՐՈՆԻԹԹԲՆ ԱՅ Է ԹԱԳՄԱ - (+ GAROGHOUTPN AY E TAKAVOR, by the will of God he is King)

As far as the differences of this new coin from the first example are concerned, it is worth mentioning that on the obverse of the first example the king's dress is very salient, contrary to the modest outfit on the second example. Similarly on the reverse of the first coin, the king's garment has exaggerated collars and his crown is almost invisible. But on the reverse of my example, the crown is very distinctive despite the king's modest dress. The die work on this coin is of superb quality and very similar to that of the very rare tram<sup>10</sup> (2.77 gr.) of Gosdantin I, CCA 1727b. Since the epigraphy and the garments worn by the kings on both coins is similar, it is possible that those coins were cut by the same engraver. However this second example of the subject coin has different die from the first one and is better preserved. The die axis of this coin is 03:00h while the first one is 10:00h.

<sup>10</sup> CNG XXVII - Classical Numismatic Group Auction Catalogue (September 29, 1993), coin 184.

Due to the fact that Gosdantin I, who struck some of the most celebrated coins of Armenian Kingdom of Cilicia, ruled only for a short period, his coins have extreme rarity.<sup>11</sup> They are made with quite high caliber workmanship. It is not known why only two examples of his double trams have been discovered so far, and hopefully in the future more examples will enable us to better evaluate this coin.

### The History of Gosdantin I

The *Chronicle attributed to King Hethum II* records that "the Armenian king Leon's [son] Kostand (Constantine I) was born" in 11 Jan 1277/10 Jan 1278. He (also called Constantine III; Armenian: Կոնսանտին Ո, Western Armenian transliteration: Gosdantin or Kostantine; ([11 Jan 1277/10 Jan 1278]-after 1308), was briefly king of Cilicia, from 1298 to 1299. His parents were Leo II (Leon II) and Kyr Anna (Keran) de Lampron and was part of the Hetoumid family. Leo II, crowned 6 Jan 1271 at St. Sophia, Tarsus<sup>12</sup>. The *Lignages d'Outremer* record his coronation in "la ville de Tars, le jour de l'apparition du Seigneur"<sup>13</sup>.

Hetoum I (1226 - 1270) made an alliance with the Mongols and sent his brother Smpad to the Mongol court to submit in person<sup>14, 15</sup>. The Mongols then assisted with the rotection of Cilicia from the Mamluks of Egypt, until the Mongols themselves converted to Islam. On March 31, 1292, the Mamluks sacked Rum Kale<sup>16</sup> (Hromgla), which required the Holy See to move to Sis.

During the reign of Gosdantin I, in the summer of 1299, the Mongols successfully took the city of Aleppo, and were there joined by King Hethum, whose forces included some Templar and Hospitaller knights from Armenia, who participated in the rest of the offensive.<sup>17</sup>

### Conclusions

On this last point, I have to again thank my "old friend" whom I mentioned at the very beginning of this article. It was he who presented to me these coins including the subject double tram, together with the accompanying documents. As a numismatist and antiquity expert, he

<sup>11</sup> Bedoukian, *CCA*, p. 91; Paul Z. Bedoukian, *Selected Numismatic Studies* (Los Angeles: Armenian Numismatic Society, 1981), p. 334.

<sup>12</sup> Count W. H. Rudt-Collenberg, *The Rupenides, Hethumides and Lusignans: The Structure of the Armeno-Cilician Dynasties* (Paris: Librairie C. Klincksieck, 1963), pp. 67, no. 129.

<sup>13</sup> Lignages d'Outremer, *Documents relatifs à l'histoire des croisades – Tome XVIII*, 2003. Consulted at internet website [http://fmg.ac/Projects/MedLands/ARMENIA.htm#\\_Toc184469948](http://fmg.ac/Projects/MedLands/ARMENIA.htm#_Toc184469948).

<sup>14</sup> Peter Jackson, *Mongols and the West: 1221-141*, (Pearson Longman, 2005), p. 74. "King Het'um of Lesser Armenia, who had reflected profoundly upon the deliverance afforded by the Mongols from his neighbors and enemies in Rum, sent his brother, the Constable Smbat (Sempad) to Guyug's court to offer his submission."

<sup>15</sup> Angus Donal Stewart, "The Logic of Conquest: Tripoli, 1289; Acre, 1291; Why not Sis, 1293?", in *Al-Masaq: Islam and the Medieval Mediterranean*, vol. xiv, 2002, p. 8. "The Armenian king saw alliance with the Mongols – or, more accurately, swift and peaceful subjection to them – as the best course of action."

<sup>16</sup> Rum Kale (Hromgla) is 25 km. from Yavuzeli and 62 km. from Gaziantep in Turkey.

<sup>17</sup> D Alain Demurger, *The Last Templar: The Tragedy of Jacques de Molay, Last Grand Master of the Temple* (London : Profile Books, 2005), p. 142 (French edition). "He was soon joined by King Hethum, whose forces seem to have included Hospitallers and Templars from the kingdom of Armenia, who participate to the rest of the campaign."

knew their value, but preferred to give them to me as a gift, due to the importance of our friendship. Without his kind and valuable support, my collection could not be as rich as it is. Similarly, the famous numismatist Edoardo Levante<sup>18</sup> kindly mentioned to me several times that he also benefitted from my “real friend’s” assistance while he was preparing his numerous works<sup>19</sup> on Cilician coins.

None of the five sons of Levon II, who became kings, benefited from the inter-sibling power struggles and the mixing of religion with state affairs as a leverage tool. After the death of Levon II, on February 6, 1289, Hetoum’s elevation to the throne could not repair and even worsened the delicate situation.

The assistance of those kings and their successors provided to the Crusaders, and their efforts to establish inter-family<sup>20</sup> and financial<sup>21</sup> relations with kings of Cyprus, Jerusalem, and the Byzantine Empire could not help them to maintain their existence in Cilicia.

The extremely short reign of Gosdantin I, consumed by political and military turmoil, is a leading reason for the rarity of his coins. One of those rare coins, an example of the rarest type, gave me the opportunity to share this discovery with the numismatic world.

## ANNEX

Plates – Coins discovered in the “find”.

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<sup>18</sup> Edoardo Levante was born in Iskenderun, Turkey in 1932 and passed away in Paris in 2007. SNG Levante is the one of the masterpiece references about Roman Provincial Coinages in Cilicia. May he rest in peace.

<sup>19</sup> Some of them are: Levante Korakesion; Levante Titiopolis; Levante Adana; Levante Rhosus; Levante Zephyrion; Levante Selinus; SNG Levante supp.

<sup>20</sup> In *The Chronicle attributed to King Hethum II* (obtained at internet website [http://fmq.ac/Projects/MedLands/ARMENIA.htm#\\_ftnref748](http://fmq.ac/Projects/MedLands/ARMENIA.htm#_ftnref748)) it is recorded that “*Lewon king of the Armenians went to Cyprus and married the king's sister Sybil, who is Elisabeth*” in 28 Jan 1210/27 Jan 1211. *The Lignages d'Outremer* (Marciana Ms Francesce 20, CC.LXXXI, p. 66) name “*Sebille, la fille dou rei Heymeri et de la reyna Ysabiau*” as wife of “*Livon*” brother of “*Rupin de la Montaigne qui estoit seignor d'Ermenie*”. She claimed the throne of Armenia for herself after the death of her husband, but was exiled by the regent Gosdantin Lord of Barbaron and Partzperpt [Hethumid].

<sup>21</sup> According to the *Chartes d'Arménie, VIII and IX*, (pp. 122 and 124): He (Levon I) supported the Knights Hospitaller against the Knights Templar in the war of succession in Antioch, for which he was excommunicated in 1214. “*Leo...rex Armenie*” granted property to the Knights Hospitaller with the consent of “*domini Rupini principis Antiochie... nepotis et heredis mei*” by charter dated 23 Apr 1214, and declared having received a loan from the Knights Hospitaller by charter dated the same date, both documents specifying that these financial transactions formed part of the arrangements for the marriage of “*mee fille*” and “*regi Iherosolimitano*”. Victor Langlois, *Le Tresor des Chartes d'Armenie: ou, Cartulaire de la Chancellerie Royale des Roupeniens*, (Venice, San Lazzaro, 1863).

Coins taken place in the "Find"



0117 A



0117 B



0289 A



0289 B



1125 A



1125 B



1126 A



1126 B



1127 A



1127 B



1129 A



1129 B



1162 A



1162 B



1163 A



1163 B



1213 A



1213 B



1494 A



1494 B

M. Iskender Tarkaç, Second Silver Double Tram of Armenian King Gospasian I



3826 A



3826 B



3860 A



3860 B



3861 A



3861 B



3862 A



3862 B



3863 A



3863 B



3864 A



3864 B



3887 A



3887 B



3888 A



3888 B



3891 A



3891 B



3894 A



3894 B

M. Iskender Tarkaç, Second Silver Double Tram of Armenian King Gosdantin I

## THE DOUBLE TRAM OF KING GOSDANTIN I OF CILICIAN ARMENIA IN THE SARYAN COLLECTION

By L. A. Saryan, Ph.D.

In May of 1998, New York numismatist Jack Guevrekian mailed me an envelope containing a newly acquired coin with a request that I examine and publish it. This coin, inscribed in the name of King Gosdantianos, carries the same iconography and legends as the rare silver trams of Gosdantin I, but differs in that it is approximately twice the weight and larger in diameter than a typical Gosdantin tram. The coin thus has the dimensions of a double tram, a denomination that had never been anticipated or reported previously for this king.

Prior to 1998, all known Armenian double trams were of a single type, inscribed in the name of King Levon. These depict the king in royal vestments seated on a throne, and on the reverse a single crowned lion holding a cross. Scholars have assigned coins of this type to King Levon I (1198-1219). The design and legend on the new coin, being remarkably different from the Levon double trams, opens potential new vistas for Armenian numismatics. This coin is evidence that, despite his brief and turbulent reign, King Gosdantin I included silver double trams as part of his ambitious coinage program.

I completed my study a few months later and submitted it for publication to the *American Journal of Numismatics*. I returned the coin to Jack, but in February 2001 he sent it back, tucked inside a beautifully bound copy of Fr. Ghevond Alishan's *Sisouan*, thus making it possible for me to become the steward of two Cilician Armenian treasures. Sadly, Jack is no longer with us. He never revealed to me the source of this coin, but undoubtedly it came to him from one of his many business associates in Europe or the Middle East.

My report, which presents the new coin in its historical and numismatic context, was published in the year 2000 issue of *American Journal of Numismatics*.<sup>1</sup> Subsequently, I was invited by His Holiness Aram I, Catholicos of the Great House of Cilicia, to deliver a paper on Armenian coinage at the International Conference on the Culture of Cilician Armenia, held from January 14-18, 2008 in Antelias, Lebanon.<sup>2</sup> I chose for my topic this same coin, in the hope that in this way I might arouse interest in an Armenian audience. My presentation was enthusiastically received and subsequently published in *Hask*, the official scholarly publication of the Cilician See.<sup>3</sup> Unfortunately, the illustrations accompanying my paper were inadvertently omitted in the published volume.

Those who are interested in historical context and numismatic details, including the coin's surface alloy composition and the reasoning used to verify its authenticity, are

<sup>1</sup> L. A. Saryan, "An Unpublished Silver Double Tram of Gosdantin I (1298-1299), King of Cilician Armenia," *American Journal of Numismatics*, Vol. 12 (2000), pp. 195-204.

<sup>2</sup> L. A. Saryan, "International Conference on the Culture of Cilician Armenia" *Armenian Numismatic Journal*, Vol. 4 (34), (2008), p. 28.

<sup>3</sup> L. A. Saryan, "The Unique Silver Double Tram of King Gosdantin I (1298-1299) of Cilician Armenia," *Hask Armenological Yearbook*, year 11 (new series, 2007-2008), (Antelias, Lebanon: Catholicosate of the Great House of Cilicia, 2009), pp. 339-348.

referred to the publications cited above. In this short article, I offer for our readers an enlarged illustration and a brief description of this exceptional coin:



**Obverse:** The king is seated on a horse walking to the right. He is bearded, wears a crown with three peaks, and has a cloak clasped below the neck. In his right hand he holds a sword nearly upright and in his left hand he holds the reins of the horse. The horse has a caparison or breast-plate, as well as barding on the hindquarters. The legend, enclosed between two concentric circles of pellets, reads clockwise +ԿՈՆՏԱՆԻԱՆՈՆ ԹԱՎՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՑ (+GOSDANTIANOS TAKAVOR HAYOTS) (Gosdantianos King of Armenians).

**Reverse:** The king is standing facing forward, holding a sword upright in his right hand and a cross in his left. He is crowned and bearded, and wears a distinctive kilt. It is interesting to note that the reverse crown differs slightly in style from that on the obverse. Buttons or jewels form an X-pattern across the chest and run across the waistline, down the center of the kilt, at the cuffs, and along the hem. A royal cloak is clasped below the neck and draped across his shoulders. The legend, enclosed within two concentric circles of pellets, reads clockwise +ԿՐՈՂՈՒԹԲՆ ԱՅ Ե ԹԱՎՈՐ (+GAROGHOUTPN AY E TAKAVOR) (by the empowerment of God he is king). An unidentified small symbol follows the last letter of the inscription.

**Fabric:** Silver, 5.674 grams, 25.7 to 28.1 mm diameter, die axis 10h. Although the edges are partially off the flan, the center of this coin is fully struck making it possible to easily visualize fine details of the horse ornamentation and royal vestments. A flaw on the edge near 8 o'clock (obverse) suggests that at one time this coin might have been suspended for use as jewelry.

A second Gosdantian double trani, struck with different obverse and reverse dies and therefore differing in several key respects from the one described here, was recently revealed in the collection of Iskender Targac, former secretary general of the Turkish Numismatic Society in Istanbul. That coin is presented elsewhere in this issue. The revelation that a second example of this coin exists gives Armenian numismatists reason to hope that further new discoveries are just around the corner.

# METROLOGY OF COPPER COINAGE OF THE ARTAXIADS OF ARMENIA

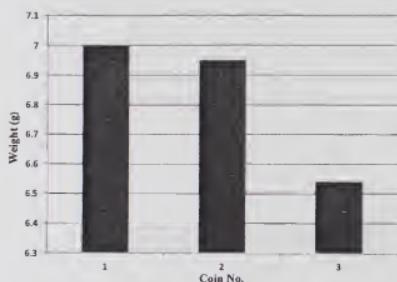
## Tigranes V (A.D. 6)

No.	CAA	Metrological Data	Source
	ACV	wt.-diam.-die axis	

### Tigranes-Erato

#### 4 Chalci

1	182	7.00g	CAA165BN
2	166	6.95g-23ø	CAA166Glasgow
3	166	6.54g-22.6ø-12h	Er19992/74
4	183		ACV183VS
Tot.Avg. = 20.49+3 = 6.83g weight			
Tot.Avg. = 45.6+2 = 22.8mm diameter			
Tot.Avg. = 1/12h die axis orientation			



Ch. 18.1, Tigranes V - Erato

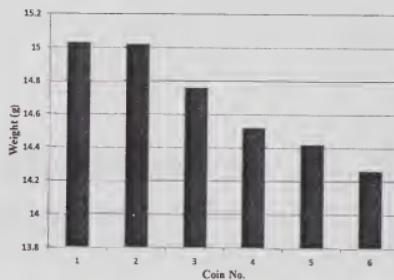
No.	CAA	Metrological Data	Source
	ACV	wt.-diam.-die axis	

### Tigranes-Augustus

#### Chalci 4?

1	167	15.03g-26.2ø-12h	Er19878/6
2	167	15.02g	CAA167AshM
3	184	14.76g-24ø	CNG43-676
4	167	14.52g	Gorny46-357
5	184	14.42g-24ø	CNG36-634
6	167	14.26g-25ø-12h	CNG27-34
Tot.Avg. = 88.01+6 = 14.67g			
Tot.Avg. = 99.2+4 = 24.8mm diameter			
Tot.Avg. = 2/12h die axis orientation			

Tot.Avg. = 88.01+6 = 14.67g  
Tot.Avg. = 99.2+4 = 24.8mm diameter  
Tot.Avg. = 2/12h die axis orientation



Ch. 18.2, Tigranes V - Augustus

Table 18.1. Number of coins used to calculate the average weights of Tigranes V and Erato, Tigranes V and Agustus coppers

Coin Rev. Design	Number of coins	$\text{\textsterling} \text{\texteuro} \text{ Coin Weight}$
Tigranes-Erato	3	6.83g
Tigranes-Augustus	6	14.67g
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>9</b>	

Table 18.2. Number of coins used to calculate the average diameters of Tigranes V and Erato, Tigranes V and Agustus coppers

Coin Rev. Design	Number of coins	Æ Coin Diameter
Tigranes V-Erato	2	22.8mm
Tigranes V-Augustus	4	24.8mm
TOTAL	6	

Table 18.3. Number of coins used to calculate the average die axis orientation of Tigranes V and Erato, Tigranes V and Agustus coppers

Coin Rev. Design	Number of coins	Æ Die Axis Orientation
Tigranes V-Erato	1	1/12h
Tigranes V-Augustus	2	2/12h
TOTAL	3	

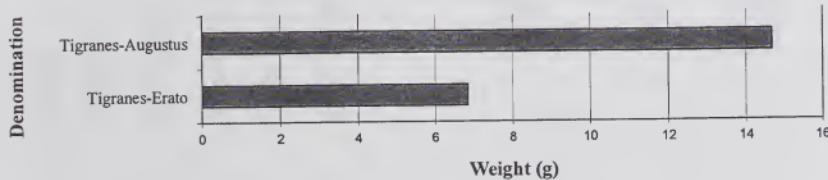


Chart 18.2. Average weights of Tigranes V and Erato ,  
Tigranes V and Agustus copper coins (grams)

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Sept. 2014



Series II

Volume 10 (40), No. 4

December 2014

ՀԱՅ  
ԴՐԱՄԱԳԻՏԱԿԱՆ  
ՀԱՆԴԵՒՆ

ARMENIAN  
NUMISMATIC  
JOURNAL

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# ՀԱՅ ԴՐԱՄԱԳԻՏԱԿԱՆ ՀԱՆԴԵՒՄ ARMENIAN NUMISMATIC JOURNAL

Series II

Vol. 10 (40), No. 4

December 2014

## End of *Armenian Numismatic Journal*

In March 1975, the first issue of the *Armenian Numismatic Journal* was published.

The beginning was extremely humble. The first article was on the bank notes of Armenia in an outlined format; that first issue also included an abstract on an Armenian numismatic article. The issue was posted without cover.

During the past forty years, numerous articles have been published by a multitude of authors. Furthermore, two *festschriften* were published in *Armenian Numismatic Journal* dedicated to Fr. Clement Sibilian and Dr. Paul Z. Bedoukian.

The Society started its *Special Publication* series in 1981. In 2009, twenty-nine years later, SP15 was published.

During this forty year period, the membership never grew large enough such that we might convert our *Journal* to an attractive publication and publish dozens more monographs. To my sorrow, these have been my failure and our society's shortcomings.

It is true that having published fifteen monographs and two commemorative volumes in ANJ and thirty-eight other volumes could make any numismatic organization very proud. Yet I feel that these two major goals of the Society were not fulfilled.

When the ANJ was founded, I was young and energetic. Today my age has advanced and I have health problems. The Society's Executive Board has decided to end the publication of *Armenian Numismatic Journal* in December of 2014.

I would like to express my thanks to Dr. Levon A. Saryan, Mr. Terenik Nercessian, and Mr. Wartan Gewenian who have helped me publish a scholarly *Journal*. Also, I would like to thank to the multitude of authors for gracing the pages of the ANJ with their articles.

The Armenian Numismatic Society will continue to remain as a functional organization but with limited activity. Those who would like to remain active members may continue to pay their annual membership dues to support and aid the organization. Communication will be maintained with the membership in writing and by e-mail. The annual USA membership will be reduced to \$25 with foreign membership to \$30.

The membership will continue to have the previous discount privileges.

Y. T. Nercessian

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## Վերջ Հայ Դրամագիրական Հանդեսի

Մարտ 1975-ին Հայ Դրամագիրական Հանդեսի առաջին համարը հրատարակուեցաւ:

Սկիզբը շատ համեստ էր: Առաջին յօդուածը՝ ուրուագծուած, Հայաստանի թղթադրամներու մասին էր և համառօտագրութիւն մը՝ հայ դրամագիրական յօդուածի մը վրայ: Առաքուեցաւ առանց կողմբ:

Վերջին քառասուն տարիներու ընթացքին հրատարակուեցան բազմաթիւ յօդուածներ հեղինակներու փաղանգի մը կողմէ: Ինչպէս նաև հրատարակուեցան Հայ Դրամագիրական Հանդեսի երկու բացառիկ հասորներ, ձօնուած՝ Հ. Կանեմէս Սիմիլեանին և Դոկտ. Զարեհ Պ. Պոտոկեանին:

Կազմակերպութիւնը մկան հրատարակել Յատուկ Հրատարակութիւն մատենաշարը 1981-ին: Բանանը ինը տարի ետք, 2009-ին հրատարակուեցաւ SP15 մենագրութիւնը:

Քառասուն տարուայ շրջանին, անորոշ պատճառով, անդամակցութիւնը բաւարար չկարողացաւ մեծնալ, որ Հանդէսը վերածուէր շքեղ հրատարակութեան մը և հրատարակուէր բանի մը տասնեակ մենագրութիւններ: Ցաւ ու պիտ այս եղած է իմ ձախողութիւնը և մեր կազմակերպութեան թերութիւնը:

Ճիշդ է թէ հրատարակուած տասնը հինգ մենագրութիւններով, ՀԴՀ-ի երկու բացառիկներով և երեսուն ուրք այլ հասորներով որևէ կազմակերպութիւն մը կրնայ պատի զգալ. սակայն, անկարելի է չտասածել, թէ կազմակերպութեան այս երկու հեռանկարները լիովին չեն իրականացուած:

Երբ ՀԴՀ-ը հիմնադրուեցաւ՝ ես երիտասարդ և աշխոյժ էի: Այսօր իմ տարիքը յառաջացած է և առողջական խնդիրներ ունիմ: Կազմակերպութեան վարչութիւնը որոշեց 2014-ի Դեկտեմբերին դադրեցնել ու վերջաւորութեան բերել Հայ Դրամագիրական Հանդեսին հրատարակութիւնը:

Այս առթի կը փափաքիմ իմ երախտագիտութիւնը յայտն Դոկտ. Լեւոն Սարեանին, Պրն. Դերենիկ Ներսէսեանին, Պրն. Վարդան Գեվենեանին, որոնք ինձի օգնեցին հրատարակելու բազմահմուտ Հանդէսը մը: Կուպէմ նաև շորհակալութիւն-ներ յայտնել հեղինակներու հոյին, որոնք օժտեցին ՀԴՀ-ը իրենց յօդուածներով:

Հայ Դրամագիրական Ընկերակցութիւնը պիտի շարունակ մնալ իրեն գոյատևող կազմակերպութիւն մը, սակայն սահմանափակ գործունէութեամբ: Բնոլոր անոնք որ կը փափաքին մնալ իրեն գործոն անդամներ, կրնան վճարել իրենց տարեկան անդամասութիւթ, շարունակել մնալ իրեն անդամ ու աստարել և զօրավիդ կանգնիլ կազմակերպութեան՝ երբ պահանջըք ներկայանայ: Անդամներուն հետ կապ պիտի պահուի տպած և էլէկտրոնիկային միջոցներով: ԱՄՆի տարեկան անդամասութիւթ պիտի նուազի \$25-ի, օտար երկիրներու համար՝ \$30-ի:

Անդամները պիտի շարունակեն ունենալ՝ գեղջով ապրանք գնելու նախկին առանձնաշնորհումները:

### MEMBERSHIP DISCOUNT SCHEDULE

All Armenian Numismatic Society members receive a 20% discount on all publications\*: Armenian Numismatic Journal issues (bound volumes included), Special Publications, Bedoukian publications, and also our silver medals.

\* Except for publications which are already offered at a reduced price

## ARMENIAN COINS EXCAVATED AT KINET

### (Part II)

Y. T. NERCESSIAN

Plate 10

In 2004, we published a report on the Cilician Armenian coins discovered at the port city of Kinet, located in Cilician Armenia.<sup>1</sup> In 2013, Prof. Scott Redford e-mailed us and asked if we would be interested to continue studying the coins discovered during the last years of excavation at Kinet. Also, he suggested that a report on these coins from the medieval levels at Kinet should be prepared and published.

As before, the Armenian coins were individual finds and did not constitute a hoard as such. Prof. Redford emphasized that all of the Armenian coins that have been found have been single finds; and all are from stratified archaeological contexts. KNH-1208 (catalogued as No. 63 in this report) which, although poorly preserved, is very important because it was found together with the hoard of Antiochene deniers that David Metcalf is working on and may help to date that hoard.

#### Cataloguing the coins

Using the electronic images provided, we were able to successfully identify and catalogue the coins as we had done in Part I. The catalogue is arranged in chronological sequence of the rulers.

The photographic plate offered for catalogue 2 utilized the actual electronic images transmitted to us via e-mail by Prof. Redford. An asterisk (\*) indicates if the coin is illustrated in the plate.

Table 2. *Summary of Armenian coins found at Kinet (Part II)*

Ruler and regnal period	Coins found	Quantity of coins found
Levon I (11980-1219)	Æ Tank	2
Hetoum I (1226-1270)	AR Hetoum-Zabel tram (1) Æ Tank (7) Æ Equestrian kardez (7)	
Levon II (1170-1289)	Æ King seated on throne, kardez (2)	17
Hetoum II (1289-93, 1295-1296, 1299-1305)	Æ Kardez	3
Levon III (1301-1307)	Æ Kardez AR Takvorin (1)	6
Unidentifiable	Æ Kardez (2) AR Tram	3
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>32</b>

<sup>1</sup> For the first part, see Y. T. Nercessian, "Armenian Coins Excavated at Kinet," *Armenian Numismatic Journal*, Series I, Vol. XXX (June 2004), No. 2, pp. 47-55, pl. 3; reprinted in *Armenian Numismatic Studies*, Vol. II (Los Angeles, 2009), pp. 313-326, pl. 42-43. Table 2 and Catalogue 2 are the continuation of the first part.

## CATALOGUE 2

### LEVON I (1198-1219)

#### 32\* Tank

Obv.: Bearded leonine head of king facing, wearing crown with five dots. Clockwise legend, +ԼԵՎՈՆ ԹԱԳԱԼԻՈՒ ՀԱՅՈՒՑ (Levon king of the Armenians).

Rev.: Patriarchal cross with two stars in field. Clockwise legend, +ԾԻՆԵԱԼ Ի ԳԱՂԱՔՈՒ Ի ՍԻՍ (struck in the city of Sis).

Data: AE, Wt. 7.25 g, 29 mmø, KT15093, CCA 696, ACV 301 (grade VF+) KNH-1184

#### 33\* Tank

Obv.: Bearded leonine head of king facing, wearing crown with six dots. Clockwise legend, +ԼԵՎՈՆ ԹԱԳԱԼԻՈՒ ՀԱՅՈՒՑ.

Rev.: Patriarchal cross with two stars in field. Clockwise legend, +ԾԻՆԵԱԼ Ի ԳԱՂԱՔՈՒ Ի ՍԻՍ.

Data: AE, Wt. 7.07 g, 28 mmø, KT16842, CCA 706, ACV 303 (green patina, grade VF+) KNH-1310

### HETOUM I (1226-1270)

#### 34\* Hetoum-Zabel Tram

Obv.: Queen Zabel standing on l. facing and King Hetoum standing on r. facing. Both figures are crowned and wearing royal vestments. Both are holding a long cross. Dot on the cross. Clockwise legend, +ԿԱՐՈՂՈՒԹ ԻՒԻՆ ԱՅ Ե (by the will of God).

Rev.: Lion to r., crowned and holding a cross with l. paw. Clockwise legend, +ՀԵԹՈՒՄ ԹԱԳԱԼԻՈՒ ՀԱՅՈՒՑ (Hetoum king of the Armenians).

Data: AR, Wt. KT16268, CCA 896, ACV 334V (grade EF) KNH-1300

#### 35\* Tank

Obv.: King seated on throne adorned with lions. He holds a globus cruciger in his l. hand, and a fleur-de-lys on his r. shoulder. Clockwise legend, +ՀԵԹՈՒՄ ԹԱԳԱԼԻՈՒ ՀԱՅՈՒՑ (Hetoum king of the Armenians).

Rev.: Potent cross with four stars in four quadrants. Clockwise legend, +ԾԻՆԵԱԼ Ի ԳԱՂԱՔՈՒ Ի ՍԻՍ (struck in the city of Sis).

Data: AE, 29 mmø, KT15104, CCA 1295, ACV 351 (grade VF) KNH-1185

#### 36 Tank

Obv.: King seated on throne adorned with lions. He holds a globus cruciger in his l. hand, and a fleur-de-lys on his r. shoulder. Clockwise legend, +ՀԵԹՈՒՄ ԹԱԳԱԼԻՈՒ ՀԱՅՈՒՑ.

Rev.: Potent cross with four lines in four quadrants. Clockwise legend, +ԾԻՆԵԱԼ Ի ԳԱՂԱՔՈՒ Ի ՍԻՍ.

Data: AE, Wt. 7.46 g, 28 mmø, KT15654, CCA 1296, ACV 351 (only obverse image provided, green patina, grade VF) KNH-1309

**37- Tank**

Obv.: King seated on throne adorned with lions. He holds a globus cruciger in his l. hand, and a fleur-de-lys on his r. shoulder. Star in l. field. Clockwise legend, +ՀԵԹՈՒՄ ԹԱԳԱՀՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՑ.

Rev.: Potent cross with four stars in four quadrants. Clockwise legend, +ԾԻՆԵԱԼ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔՆ ՄԻՒ.

Data: AE, Wt. 7.03 g, 28 mmø, KT15081, CCA 1304, ACV 352V (some corrosion, grade VF+) KNH-1182

**38- Tank**

Obv.: King seated on throne adorned with lions. He holds a globus cruciger in his l. hand, and a fleur-de-lys on his r. shoulder. Clockwise legend, +ՀԵԹՈՒՄ ԹԱԳԱՀՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՑ.

Rev.: Potent cross with four stars in four quadrants. Clockwise legend, +ԾԻՆԵԱԼ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔՆ Ի ՄԻՒ.

Data: AE, Wt. 9.08 g, 30 mmø, KT16826, CCA 1304, ACV 352V (pierced, otherwise grade VF) KNH-1303

**39 Tank**

Obv.: King seated on throne adorned with lions. He holds a globus cruciger in his l. hand, and a fleur-de-lys on his r. shoulder. Clockwise legend, +ՀԵԹՈՒՄ ԹԱԳԱՀՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՑ.

Rev.: Potent cross with four lines in four quadrants. Clockwise legend, +ԾԻՆԵԱԼ Ի ԳԱՂԱԳՆ Ի ՄԻՒ.

Data: AE, KT15701, CCA 1328, ACV 353 (grade VF) KNH-1307

**40 Tank**

Obv.: King seated on throne adorned with lions. He holds a globus cruciger in his l. hand, and a fleur-de-lys on his r. shoulder. Clockwise legend, +ՀԵԹՈՒՄ ԹԱԳԱՀՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՑ.

Rev.: Potent cross with four stars in four quadrants. Clockwise legend, +ԾԻՆԵԱԼ Ի ԳԱՂԱԳՆ Ի ՄԻՒ.

Data: AE, 30 mm, KT14572, CCA 1362V, ACV 351V (corroded, grade F/about VF) KNH-1169

**41 Tank**

Obv.: The obverse of this coin is in very poor condition. However, the presence of letter T (Թ) at 2h and 4:30h enabled us to assign this coin to King Hetoum I. +The inscription is not legible.

Rev.: Very poorly visible, potent cross with four stars in four quadrants. Clockwise legend, +ԾԻՆԵԱԼ Ի ԳԱՂԱԳՆ Ի ՄԻՒ (struck in the city of Sis).

Data: AE, Wt. 8.20 g, 29 mmø, KT11711, similar to CCA 1308, ACV 351 (grade Very Poor/Very Good+) KNH-997

**42- Kardez, equestrian**

Obv.: King on horseback to r., wearing a crown and holding a scepter in his r. hand which extends over his r. shoulder. Clockwise legend, +ՀԵԹՈՒՄ ԹԱԳԱՀՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՑ (Hetoum king of the Armenians).

Rev.: Potent cross with four stars in four quadrants. Clockwise legend,  
+ԾԻՒԵԱԼ Ի ԳԱՂԱԳՆ Ի ՍԻՒ (struck in the city of Sis).

Data:  $\text{AE}$ , Wt. 4.70 g, 23 mm $\varnothing$ , KT14362, CCA 1365, ACV 359V (reverse off center, otherwise grade VF+) KNH-1160

**43 Kardez, equestrian**

Obv.: King on horseback to r., wearing a crown and holding a scepter in his r. hand which extends over his r. shoulder. Clockwise legend,  
+ՀԵՄՈՒՄ ԹԱԳԱԽՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՒ.

Rev.: Potent cross with four lines in four quadrants. Clockwise legend,  
+ԾԻՒԵԱԼ Ի ԳԱՂԱԳՆ Ի ՍԻՒ.

Data:  $\text{AE}$ , Wt. 4.83 g, 25 mm $\varnothing$ , KT11525, CCA 1376, ACV 359V (grade VF+) KNH-996

**44 Kardez, equestrian**

Obv.: King on horseback to r., wearing a crown and holding a scepter in his r. hand which extends over his r. shoulder. Star in l. field. Clockwise legend,  
+ՀԵՄՈՒՄ ԹԱԳԱԽՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՒ.

Rev.: Potent cross with four lines in four quadrants. Clockwise legend,  
+ԾԻՒԵԱԼ Ի ԳԱՂԱԳՆ Ի ՍԻՒ.

Data:  $\text{AE}$ , Wt. 4.31 g, 23 mm $\varnothing$ , KT14061, CCA 1376, ACV 359V (note that the second letter of king's name, ՀԵՄՈՒ (Hetoum) is missing, grade VF+) KNH-1158

**45 Kardez, equestrian**

Obv.: King on horseback to r., wearing a crown and holding a scepter in his r. hand which extends over his r. shoulder. Clockwise legend,  
+ՀԵՄՈՒՄ ԹԱԳԱԽՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՒ.

Rev.: Potent cross with four lines in four quadrants. Clockwise legend,  
+ԾԻՒԵԱԼ Ի ԳԱՂԱԳՆ Ի ՍԻՒ.

Data:  $\text{AE}$ , Wt. 3.40 g, 24 mm $\varnothing$ , KT12148, CCA 1377, ACV 359V (grade about VF) KNH-998

**46 Kardez, equestrian**

Obv.: King on horseback to r., wearing a crown and holding a scepter in his r. hand which extends over his r. shoulder. Clockwise legend,  
+ՀԵՄՈՒՄ ԹԱԳԱԽՈՐ ՀԱՅ.

Rev.: Potent cross with four lines in four quadrants. Clockwise legend,  
+ԾԻՒԵԱԼ Ի ԳԱՂԱԳՆ Ի ՍԻՒ [Ս].

Data:  $\text{AE}$ , 23 mm $\varnothing$ , KT15089, CCA 1387, ACV 359V (grade VF) KNH-1183

**47 Kardez, equestrian**

Obv.: King on horseback to r., wearing a crown and holding a scepter in his r. hand which extends over his r. shoulder.  
+The obverse circular inscription is not legible.

Rev.: Potent cross with lines in first and third quadrants, stars in second and fourth quadrants. Clockwise legend,  
+ԾԻՒԵԱԼ Ի ԳԱՂԱԳՆ Ի ՍԻՒ [Խ].

Data:  $\text{AE}$ , Wt. 6.01 g, 25 mm $\varnothing$ , KT16252, similar to CCA 1369, ACV 359 (green patina, worn, grade VG/F) KNH-1301

**48 Kardez, equestrian**

Obv.: King on horseback to r., wearing a crown and holding a scepter in his r. hand which extends over his r. shoulder.<sup>2</sup>  
 +The obverse is worn out and it is impossible to read the legend from the photograph.

Rev.: Potent cross with for lines in four quadrants. Clockwise legend,  
 +ԺԵՒԵԱ, [h] ԳԱՂԱԳՆ հ ՍՍ (struck in the city of Sis).

Data:  $\text{AE}$ , Wt. 4.37 g, 25mm $\phi$ , KT17430, similar to CCA 1368, ACV 359 (obverse well worn, grade Very Poor/F) KNH-1344

**49. Kardez. King seated on wide bench—like throne**

Obv.: King seated legs crossed on a wide bench. He holds a globus cruciger in his l. hand and in his r., folded upward, a fleur-de-lys extending over his r. shoulder. Star in the l. field. Clockwise legend,  
 +[ՀԵՌՈՒՄ] ԹԱԳԱՒՆՈՒ ՀԱՅՈՑ (Hetoum king of the Armenians).

Rev.: Potent cross with half moon in first quadrant and lines in second, third, and fourth. Clockwise legend,  
 +ԺԵՒԵԱ, հ ԳԱՂԱԳՆ հ ՍՍ (struck in the city of Sis).

Data:  $\text{AE}$ , Wt. 5.22 g, 23mm $\phi$ , KT17306, CCA 1394, ACV 363 (grade F+/VF) KNH-1347

**50 Kardez. King seated on throne**

Obv.: King seated on throne adorned with lions. He holds a globus cruciger in his l. hand, and a fleur-de-lys on his r. shoulder. Clockwise legend,  
 +..... ԱԳԱԽՈՒ ..... .

Rev.: Potent cross with half moon in first quadrant and lines in second, third, and fourth. Clockwise legend,  
 +..... հ ԳԱՂԱ... հ ... .

Data:  $\text{AE}$ , Wt. 3.76 g, 25mm $\phi$ , KT17840, similar to CCA 1412, ACV 364 (well worn and very crude, grade Very Poor) KNH-1346

**LEVON II (1170-1289)**

**51\* Kardez**

Obv.: Lion walking l. Clockwise legend,  
 +..... ԹԱԳԱԽՈՒ ..... (Levon king of the Armenians).

Rev.: Cross with four stars in four quadrants. Clockwise legend,  
 +ԺԵՒԵԱ, հ ՔԱՂԱՔՆ ՀԱՅՈՑ (struck in the city of Sis).

Data:  $\text{AE}$ , Wt. 4.67 g, 27mm $\phi$ , KT15909, similar to CCA 1540, ACV 387 (off center, green patina, VG+) KNH-1308

**52 Kardez**

Obv.: Lion walking l. Clockwise legend,  
 +..... ՀԱԽՈՒ ՀԱՅՈՑ .

Rev.: Cross with four stars in four quadrants. Clockwise legend,

<sup>2</sup> King Hetoum I and King Smpad struck copper coins where the obverse has the “King on horseback” design. In the *Metrology of Cilician Armenian Coinage*, by Y. T. Nercessian (Los Angeles, 2007), the average metrological data of Hetoum I coin is 4.45g and 24.68mm $\phi$  (p. 65); for Smpad 1.83g and 19.24mm $\phi$  (p. 90). Therefore, the above catalogued copper coin (No. 48) must be given to Hetoum I.

+..... . ՔԱՐԱՔՎ .. .

Data:  $\text{\textcircled{E}}$ , Wt. 4.86 g, 27.5 mm $\varnothing$ , KT17313, similar to CCA 1540, ACV 387 (well worn, Very Poor) KNH-1342

**53 Kardez**  
 Obv.: Lion walking l.<sup>3</sup>  
 +The obverse is well worn and it is impossible to read the legend from the photograph.  
 Rev.: Cross with four stars in four quadrants.  
 +The reverse is well worn and it is impossible to read the legend from the photograph.  
 Data:  $\text{\textcircled{E}}$ , Wt. 4.86 g, 27.5 mm $\varnothing$ , KT17323, similar to CCA 1540, ACV 387 (well worn, grade Very Poor) KNH-1345

### HETOUM II (1289-1293, 1295-1296, 1299-1305)

**54\* Kardez with king's head**  
 Obv.: Crowned head of king facing. Clockwise legend,  
 +ՀԵԹՈՒՄ ..... Ա.ՑՈՑ (Hetoum king of the Armenians).  
 Rev.: Long ornate cross with two bars. Clockwise legend,  
 +ԾԻՆԵԱԼ Ի ԳԱ..... Ի ՄԻՄ (struck in the city of Sis).  
 Data:  $\text{\textcircled{E}}$ , 21 mm $\varnothing$ , KT15204, CCA 1589, ACV 398 (off center, some corrosion and soil deposit, grade F+) KNH-1190

**55\* Kardez with king's head**  
 Obv.: Crowned head of king facing. Clockwise legend,  
 +ՀԵԹՈՒՄ ԹԱԳԱՀՈՐ ՀԱՑՈՑ .  
 Rev.: Long ornate cross with two bars. Clockwise legend,  
 +ԾԻՆԵԱԼ Ի ԳԱՂԱ... . . . .  
 Data:  $\text{\textcircled{E}}$ , Wt. 2.87 g, 23 mm $\varnothing$ , KT19919, CCA 1589, ACV 398V (grade about VF) KNH-1447

**56 Kardez with king's head**  
 Obv.: Crowned head of king facing. Clockwise legend,  
 +ՀԵԹՈՒՄ ..... Ա.ՑՈ .  
 Rev.: Long ornate cross with two bars. Clockwise legend,  
 +..... . ԳԱՂԱԳՆ Ի ՄԻ .  
 Data:  $\text{\textcircled{E}}$ , 22 mm $\varnothing$ , KT22525, CCA 1592, ACV 398V (grade VG/F) KNH-1550

**57\* Kardez with king's head**  
 Obv.: Crowned head of king facing. Clockwise legend,  
 +ՀԵԹՈՒՄ ԹԱԳԱՀՈՐ ՀԱ .  
 Rev.: Long ornate cross with two bars. Clockwise legend,  
 +ԾԻՆԵԱԼ Ի ԳԱՂԱԳՆ .. .

<sup>3</sup> King Levon II and King Levon V struck copper coins where the obverse has the "Prancing lion" design. In the *Metrology of Cilician Armenian Coinage*, the average metrological data of Levon II coin is 4.06g and 23.58mm $\varnothing$  (p. 73); for Levon V, 0.74g and 15.49mm $\varnothing$  (p. 156). Therefore, the above catalogued copper coin (No. 53) must be given to Levon II.

Data:  $\text{\textsterling}$ , Wt. 3.17g, 23 mm $\phi$ , KT16420, CCA 1598, ACV 398V (reverse off center, grade F/F+) KNH-1304

**58 Kardez, king seated**

Obv.: King seated in oriental fashion on an invisible pillow or on floor. King's vestment is folded between two knees. Left hand raised holding cross and r. hand holding mace which extends over his r. shoulder. Clockwise legend,  
+ՀԵԹՈՒՄ ԹԱԳԱՒ .

Rev.: Cross with dots in four quadrants. Clockwise legend,  
+ԾԻՆՅԱԼ, Ի ԳԱՂ.... .

Data:  $\text{\textsterling}$ , Wt. 3.71 g, 20 mm $\phi$ , KT17441, CCA 1630, ACV 401V (grade VG) KNH-1348

**59\* Kardez, king seated**

Obv.: King seated in oriental fashion on an invisible pillow or on floor. King's vestment is folded between two knees. Left hand raised holding cross and r. hand holding mace which extends over his r. shoulder. Clockwise legend,  
+ՀԵԹՈՒՄ ԹԱԳԱՒ .

Rev.: Cross with dots in four quadrants. Clockwise legend,  
+ԾԻՆՅԱԼ, Ի ՄԻՒ .

Data:  $\text{\textsterling}$ , Wt. 3.37 g, 21 mm $\phi$ , KT15824, CCA 1631, ACV 400V (grade F+) KNH-1305

**LEVON III (1301-1307)**

**60\* Takvorin**

Obv.: King on horseback riding r., holding reins with his l. hand, and with his r., a cross extending over his r. shoulder. Field mark, two circles separated by an arc. Clockwise legend,  
+ԼԵՎՈՒՄ ԹԱԳԱՆՈՐ ՀՈՅՈՒ (Levon king of the Armenians).

Rev.: Lion walking r. and facing r. Behind him a cross with one arm. Lion without claws. Cross below lion. Clockwise legend,  
+ԾԻՆՅԱԼ Ի ԳԱՂԱՔԻՒ ՄԻ (struck in the city of Sis).

Data: AR, Wt. 2.02 g, 22 mm $\phi$ , KT15905, CCA 1746, ACV 420 (grade VF) KNH-1302

**61\* Kardez**

Obv.: King seated on a bench-like throne, holding cross in r. hand and staff in l., extending over his shoulder. Clockwise legend,  
+ԼԵՎՈՒՄ ....ԻՈՒ ՀՈՅ .

Rev.: Cross with dots in four quadrants. Clockwise legend,  
+ՆԵԱԼ, Ի ԳԱՂՈՒ... .

Data:  $\text{\textsterling}$ , 19 mm $\phi$ , KT22268, CCA 1826, ACV 432V (grade F+) KNH-1549

**62 Kardez**

Obv.: King seated on a bench-like throne, holding cross in r. hand and staff in l., extending over his shoulder. Clockwise legend,  
+..... Ի ՀՈՅ .

Rev.: Cross with dots in four quadrants. Clockwise legend,  
+....ԱԼ . Ի ԳԱՂՈՒ .

Data:  $\text{\textsterling}$ , Wt. 2.71 g, 20 mm $\phi$ , KT16029, similar to CCA 1826, ACV 432 (off center, green patina, grade Very Poor) KNH-1311

## UNIDENTIFIABLE

63 Silver coin (Tram?)<sup>4</sup>

Unidentifiable and poorly preserved. Visible, illegible circular Armenian inscriptions on both sides. A silver tram, possibly of King Levon I.

Data: AR, 21.5 mmø, KT14955 (grade Very Poor, broken into four pieces)

KNH-1208

## Mints of Medieval Kingdom of Cilician Armenia

Generally speaking, the best known mint of the medieval kingdom of Cilician Armenia was Sis. However, there are a few others.

In the United States there are three major mints where the legal tender coins are minted. Coins do not always indicate their mint marks. For example, the letter indicating the first mint "P" for Philadelphia is not engraved on the coins (exceptions respected). The mints of Denver and San Francisco on the other hand, are indicated by "D" and "S", respectively.

Darson (Tarsus) was considered the first mint in Cilician Armenia and possibly for this reason, coins struck in Darson are not engraved with the legend "struck in the city of Darson." The only time they indicated that the coin was struck in Darson was during the reign of King Gosdantin III (1344-1363). We are unsure why "struck in the city of Darson" was inscribed during this period. Perhaps, the fear of losing Darson to the Egyptian Mamlüks prompted it; because the fort of Baberon, near Darson, was captured by the enemy. In 1360, Sultan al-Nasir of Egypt captured the cities of Adana and Darson, thus both of these cities were lost for the Armenians.<sup>5</sup>

After the capital Sis, the city of Darson was very important and the second capital. The coronation of King Levon I took place there.<sup>6</sup> Darson had a cosmopolitan population; beside Armenians, it included Greeks, Assyrians, Jews, and Italians. The official residence of the papal nuncio was also located at Darson.<sup>7</sup>

However, Ayas played a greater role in development and expansion of trade. It was the residence of not only local craftsmen and merchants, but also for those who had come from East and West for the purpose of carrying transactions of commercial goods with Europe, Asia, and Africa.<sup>8</sup> In 1271, Marco Polo set out from Ayas on his famous and historic voyage to Central Asia. He considered Ayas a prime port for all types of spices, silk, wood, clothing with gold, drugs, etc.<sup>9</sup> Ayas, in addition to being a seaport, was the financial gateway of Armenia to Western Europe. Thousands of silver coins, perhaps millions, changed hands at Ayas to meet the needs of commercial transactions. For this purpose it was expedient and logical to have a mint there to serve the best interests of Armenians as well as foreign merchants. Bedoukian<sup>10</sup> is of the opinion that Venetians had special privileges for more than one hundred years to strike Crusader gold coins in Ayas. These gold coins were struck primarily

<sup>4</sup> According to the report of Kinet Excavation Conservator, "the coin is silver, and possibly Armenian. Also, illegible but wide border on one side and possibly figure holding a lily, the other. Border off center."

<sup>5</sup> Paul Z. Bedoukian, "Medieval Armenian Coins," *Selected Numismatic Studies I*, p. 248; also in the booklet of *Medieval Armenian Coins* (Paris, 1971), p. 54; reprinted from *Revue des Études Arméniennes*, New Series, Vol. VIII (1971), pp. 365-431.

<sup>6</sup> Fr. Gh. Alishan, *Sissouan* (Venice, 1885), p. 269 (in Armenian).

<sup>7</sup> *ibid.*, p. 274.

<sup>8</sup> *ibid.*, pp. 356-373.

<sup>9</sup> G. Pauthier (Paris, 1866), I, pp. 15, 18, 34; A. C. Moule and P. Pelliot, *Marco Polo* (London, 1938), pp. 31 and 94.

Armenian Coins Excavated at Kinet, Part II



to satisfy the needs of Crusader merchants. They have been studied in detail by some numismatists.<sup>11</sup>

We have numerous silver and copper coins of Levon I,<sup>12</sup> Hetoum I,<sup>13</sup> and Levon II<sup>14</sup> which indicate that they were struck in the city of Ayas.

As noted above, Sis was the major mint of Cilician Armenia. One only needs to scan the pages of *Coinage of Cilician Armenia and Armenian Coins and Their Values* to observe the legend, "struck in the city of Sis." Sis was located in a mountainous area and better protected from the enemy. That was not the case for the mints of Ayas and Darson. In fact when Darson fell to the enemy, the unfinished coin striking of King Gosdantin III takvorins (silver coins) continued in the mint of the capital Sis by using the same obverse die.<sup>15</sup>

All of the Armenian copper coins excavated at Kinet that have been identified and attributed to Armenian kings have the legend "struck in the city of Sis" (Ծինակ ի քաղաքն ի Սիս). Sometimes the legends are misspelled. And often they are abbreviated because the die-cutter did not have sufficient space to complete his engraving.

In Part I, the only silver coin we have is a Levon II half tram (No. 15). This half tram was struck with tram dies and lacks legend. The circular inscription of Levon II new trams bear the inscription of "struck in the city of Sis" and some "struck in the city of Ayas." Since most of the regular trams were struck in the mint of Sis, probably this half tram was struck in Sis.

In Part II, we have a tram (No. 34) attributed to Hetoum-Zabel, a takvorin (No. 60) of Levon III, and a tram which cannot be identified (No. 63). The Hetoum-Zabel tram is more than 90% silver. The circular legends do not indicate the mint where the coin was struck. In our opinion it may have been struck in the mint of Darson. The Levon III takvorin is a debased silver coin. The legend indicates that it was struck in the mint of Sis.

### Circulation of Cilician Armenian Coins

Coins of the medieval Cilician Armenian kingdom were struck in silver and copper for the purpose of circulation. Silver coins were the standard medium of exchange with the merchants in Armenia and were used for international commerce. Also, during the reign of Levon I and Hetoum I, the weight of silver trams was equivalent to the weight of Islamic dirham and the Armenian tram contained more than 90 percent silver. Hence, the tram circulated freely in the Levant and traveled to many countries around the Mediterranean basin,

<sup>10</sup> Paul Z Bedoukian, "Some Obscure Pages of Armenian Numismatics," *Bazmavep* (Venice), Nos. 2-3, 1972, pp. 291-302; reprinted in *Selected Numismatic Studies I* (Los Angeles, 1981), pp. 438-450 (in Armenian with summary in English), see p. 448, sub header "Crusader (and Armenian?) Gold Coins" (in Armenian).

<sup>11</sup> G. Schlumberger, *Numismatique de l'Orient Latin* (Paris, 1878); P. Balog and S. Yvon, "Monnaies à Légendes Arabes de l'Orient Latin," *Revue Numismatique* (Paris, 1958), pp. 133-168, pl. XI-XVI; Victor Langlois, *Cartulaire de la Chancellerie Royal des Rouspépian* (Venice, 1863), pp. 143, 151, 169, 182; George C. Miles, "Some Hoards of Crusader Bezants," *American Numismatic Society Museum Notes*, Vol. 13 (1967), pp. 189, 203, pl. XLII-XLIV.

<sup>12</sup> Berj M. Garabedian, "The Mint of the City of Ayas and the Copper Coins of Levon I," *Handes Amsorya*, Vol. CII (1988), Nos. 1-12, pp. 221-225 (in Armenian).

<sup>13</sup> Fr. Au. Sekoulian, "Armenian Coins Struck in Ayas," *Essays on Armenian Numismatics in Memory of Father Clement Sibilian, on the Centennial of His Death*, *Armenian Numismatic Journal*, Series I, Vol. IV (1978), pp. 75-80, pl. VII.

<sup>14</sup> Y. T. Nercessian, "Levon II Trams Struck in Ayas," *Essays on Armenian Numismatics in Memory of Father Clement Sibilian, on the Centennial of His Death*, *Armenian Numismatic Journal*, Series I, Vol. IV (1978), pp. 81-90, pls. VIII-IX; reprinted in *Armenian Numismatic Studies I* (Los Angeles, 2000), pp. 334-345, pls. 70-71.

<sup>15</sup> Y. T. Nercessian, "Two Silver Coins of Gosdantin III of Cilician Armenia," *American Journal of Numismatics*, Second Series, Vol. VII-VIII (1995-1996), pp. 155-160; reprinted in *Armenian Numismatic Studies I* (Los Angeles, 2009), pp. 422-427, pl. 78.

such as Spain,<sup>16</sup> France,<sup>17</sup> Iznnimit,<sup>18</sup> Mersin,<sup>19</sup> Daphne (near Antioch),<sup>20</sup> Syria,<sup>21</sup> Beisan,<sup>22</sup> Hama,<sup>23</sup> Cyprus,<sup>24</sup> Tell Keisan,<sup>25</sup> Tiberias,<sup>26</sup> and a shipwreck (near Egypt?),<sup>27</sup> Egypt<sup>28</sup> and others where the provenance remains unknown.<sup>29</sup> Hoards indicate that the Islamic dirhams and the Armenian silver trams circulated together in the Levant, since these types of coins have been found together in the same hoards.<sup>30</sup>

In part I, we indicated that there was considerable intermarriage between the Armenians and Crusaders. King Levon I, from his first wife, had a daughter, Isabelle, who was married in 1214 to John of Brienne, king of Jerusalem. King Levon's niece and Baron Roupen II's daughter, Alice, married in 1195 to Raymond, the eldest son of Bohemond III of Antioch with the understanding that their future child would be ruling joint Crusader Antioch and Cilician Armenia. King Levon I invaded Antioch twice in 1203 and 1208. For these occasions he struck billon deniers similar to the Crusader coins. And we know for a fact that one of these extremely rare coins was found with a hoard of Antiochene deniers.<sup>31</sup>

As mentioned in part I of this report, King Hetoum's daughter, Sibylle, married Bohemond VI, prince of Antioch and count of Tripoli.<sup>32</sup> Crusader Antioch had a common

<sup>16</sup> D. Nony, "Une monnaie de Petite-Arménie (Cilicie) découverte en Espagne," *Bulletin de la Société Française de Numismatique*, Vol. XXIV (July 1969), No. 7, pp. 432-433.

<sup>17</sup> P. D. Whitting, "A Recent Hoard from Cilician Armenia," *Numismatic Circular*, Vol. LXXIX (May 1971), No. 5, p. 202.

<sup>18</sup> Levon A. Saryan, "Provenance of the 1873 Sibilian Hoard of Levon I Trams," *Armenian Numismatic Journal*, Series I, Vol. XXI (September 1995), No. 3 pp. 47-51; also see Fr. Clement Sibilian, *Classification of Roupenian Coins* (Vienna, 1982), pp. 10-11 (in Armenian).

<sup>19</sup> Paul Z. Bedoukian, *Armenian Coin Hoards* (Los Angeles, 1987), p. 31, No. 25; *Coinage of Cilician Armenia* (New York, 1962; Vienna, 1963; revised edition, Danbury, CT, 1979), pp. 144-217, all trams marked IS-H (Istanbul Archaeological Museum).

<sup>20</sup> Berj M. Garabedian, "The Coin Hoard of Daphne," *Hask Armenological Review*, Vol. II, (1949-1950), pp. 16-21 (in Armenian).

<sup>21</sup> M. Broome, "A Hoard of Mamluk Silver Dirhams," *Numismatic Circular*, Vol. XCVI (December 1988), No. 10, pp. 315-316.

<sup>22</sup> Edward T. Newell, Coins from the Excavations of Beisan (Nysa-Scytopolis, Tel Beth Shean); 1929-1935," *American Journal of Numismatics*, Second Series, Vol. 20 (2008), p. 12, Category E, No. 140.

<sup>23</sup> E. Hammershaimb, Gunhild Ploug, Evelyn Oldenburg, R. Thomsen, F. Løkkegaard. *Hama; fouilles et recherches, 1931-1938* (Copenhagen, 1969), Vol. IV, Part 3, p. 150, Nos. 377-378; p. 153, No. 477; 167, Nos. 1223-1234; pp. 169 and 170.

<sup>24</sup> D. M. Metcalf, "Byzantine, Islamic, and Crusader Coins from Saranda Kolones, Paphos," *Numismatic Chronicle*, Vol. 163 (2003), pp. 205-226.

<sup>25</sup> William J. Fulco, "Monnaies de Tell Keisan, 1971-1974," *Revue Biblique*, Vol. LXXII (April 1975), No. 2, pp. 234-239.

<sup>26</sup> L. Y. Rahmani, "A 14th Century Hoard from Tiberias," *Israel Numismatic Journal*, Vol. II (1964), Nos. 3-4, pp. 47-48.

<sup>27</sup> Fawzan Barrage and Warren C. Schultz, "A Hoard of Mamluk Dirhams from a Shipwreck," *Numismatic Chronicle*, Vol. 160 (2000), pp. 329-342.

<sup>28</sup> P. Balog, *The Coinage of the Mamlük Sultans of Egypt and Syria* (New York, 1964), pp. 146-147, pl. VIII, Nos. 213a-213f; A. R. Fahmy, "Contributions to the Mamlük Coinage," *Bulletin de l'Institut d'Egypte*, Vol. L (1968-1969), pp. 5-36 (in Arabic).

<sup>29</sup> Cilician Armenian Coins lacking provenance: Paul Z. Bedoukian, *Armenian Coin Hoards* (Los Angeles, 1987), pp. 14-62, Nos. 11, 13, 15-24, 26-51; Y. T. Nercessian, *Armenian Numismatic Bibliography and Literature* (Los Angeles, 1984), p. 123, No. 304; pp. 129-130, Nos. 322-325.

<sup>30</sup> P. Balog, R. Fahmy, L. Y. Rahmani, Fawzan Barrage and Warren C. Schultz.

<sup>31</sup> Paul Z. Bedoukian, "A Unique Billon of Levon I of Cilician Armenia and Its Historical Significance," *Selected Numismatic Studies I* (Los Angeles, 1981), pp. 103-112, reprinted from *Numismatic Chronicle*, Seventh Series, Vol. VII (1967), pp. 189-195, pl. XIV.

<sup>32</sup> W. H. Rüdt-Collenberg, *The Rupenides, Hethumides and Lusignans* (Lisbon, 1963), chart III (H2), No. 126.

border with Armenia and for practical purposes it was a part of Armenia. Now it was Hetoum's responsibility to defend Antioch against any future invasions.<sup>33</sup>

As mentioned previously, the copper coins were used for domestic trading. It is of historic and numismatic interest to note that the copper coins generally circulated within the immediate surrounding and generally speaking, they did not travel very far from their country of origin.

Furthermore, there was an extensive commercial trade between Armenia and the principality of Antioch. One can conclude from the discovery of so many Armenian coins of six different kings with numerous Crusader individual coin finds and a coin hoard at the Kinet excavation site reflects a normal historical archaeological process.

Table 3. *Summary of all Armenian coins found at Kinet*

Ruler and regnal period	Coins found	Quantity of coins found
Levon I (1198-1219)	Æ Tank	8
Hetoum I (1226-1270)	AR Hetoum-Zabel tram (1) Æ Tank (10) Æ Equestrian kardez (12) Æ King seated on throne, kardez (2)	
Levon II (1170-1289)	AR Half tram (1) Æ Kardez (8)	25
Hetoum II (1289-93, 1295-1296, 1299-1305)	Æ Kardez, King's head (8) Æ Kardez, king seated (5)	9
Smpad (1296-1298)	Æ Pogh	13
Levon III (1301-1307)	AR Takvorin (1)	1
Crusader, Tancred (1104-1112)	Æ Kardez (3)	4
Unidentifiable	Æ Copper AR Tram Æ Kardez	1
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>63</b>

All of the Armenian coins discovered at the Kinet excavation site are summarized in Table 3, *Summary of all Armenian coins found at Kinet*.

Examining the Armenian coins excavated at the Kinet site, one cannot help but contemplate about the lack of baronial coins, even from Baron Levon II (1187-1198) who ascended the throne of Cilician Armenia as the first anointed and crowned king. At this time, during the coronation of Levon, Armenia was the strongest and most prosperous Christian nation in the Levant. However, there is an unidentified silver coin (No. 63) which belongs to royal period, could be a tram of King Levon I (figure holding lily).

At the top of this list is Levon I (1198-1219) of Cilician Armenia. We have only 8 tanks (large coppers) attributed to this king.

<sup>33</sup> Paul Z. Bedoukian, "Cilician Armenia and Crusader Antioch," *Selected Numismatic Studies II* (Los Angeles, 2003), pp. 170-200, reprinted from *Handes Amsorya*, Vol. CI (1987), pp. 815-832; "Coinage of Tripoli (XIIth-XIIIth Century)," *Selected Numismatic Studies II* (Los Angeles, 2003), pp. 210-231, reprinted from *Revue Belge de Numismatique*, Vol. CXXXIV (1988), pp. 107-127.

Hetoum I (1226-1270) is the second king of Cilician Armenia. It is worth mentioning that Hetoum I ruled 45 years, much longer regnal period than any other any other Armenian king. Nearly 40% (that is 25 out of 63 coins) of the Armenian coins discovered at Kinet belong to Hetoum I. One of these coins is a Hetoum-Zabel silver tram, of the others 10 are tanks, 2 kardezzes (medium size coppers), and 12 equestrian kardezzes, exactly half of Hetoum's copper coins. This report indirectly testifies that Antioch not only had international commerce but also intermarriage with Armenia; and during the regnal period of Hetoum I that was elevated to a higher level since Bohemond VI was his son-in-law. Now it was Hetoum's responsibility to defend Antioch against the Mamlük attacks.

Hetoum II copper coins constitute 20% of the Armenian pieces, that is 13 out of 63 coins. It is interesting to note that Hetoum II struck billon deniers similar to Crusader coins; however none has been unearthed at Kinet. After Hetoum II, the circulation of Armenian coins declines sharply in Crusader Antioch.

One should keep in mind the proper perspective of history. In 1268, the Mamlüks captured and sacked Antioch; and in 1289, the principality of Tripoli, the last Crusader stronghold, was captured by the Mamlüks. In the end of the thirteenth century, beside the medieval kingdom of Cilician Armenia, Cyprus was the only other Christian kingdom in the Levant.

### ՀԱՅԿԱԿԱՆ ԴՐԱՄՆԵՐԻ ՊԵՂՈՒԱԾ ՔԻՆՔԹԻ Մէջ (Մասն Բ.) [Ամփոփում]

Ցուցակագրուած դրամները յայտնաբերուած են Քինքթ վայրի պեղումներու չարունակութեան ընթացքին, 1989 թուականէն յետոյ Փրոփ Սքաթ Քէտփորտ թղթակցաց ու մեզի դրեց 32 կտոր դրամներու լուսանկարները, որ զանոնք վերագրենք ու հրատարակենք մեր տեղեկագրութեան մէջ: Յափորդ տարրուած մէջ այս դրամները դասաւրուեցան իրենց միաւորի և տիրակալի անունով ու ցանկը իրեն զրկուեցան:

Պեղումներու ընթացքին յայտնաբերուած դրամները կը պատկանին Հայկական կիլիկիոյ միջնադարեան թագաւորութեան ու Խաչակիր Անտիոքի լատին գովութեան:

Հիմնուած մեզի հասած տեղեկութեան Քինքթի պեղումներէն յայտնաբերուած դրամները կը պատկանին հետեւալ հայ թագաւորներուն- Աւոն Ա 8 պղնձեայ զանք: Հեթում Ա, 1 հատ Հեթում-Զապէլ արծաթեայ դրամ, 10 պղնձեայ զանգ, 12 պղնձեայ ձիթուոր քարտէզ, և 2 պղնձեայ թագաւորը նստած քարտէզ: Աւոն Բ, 1 արծաթեայ կիսազրամ ասանց չրջագրութեան (հատուրէն նոր դրամներու կազմակերպութեան) 8 պղնձեայ քարտէզ: Հեթում Բ, 8 պղնձեայ թագաւորի գուլխով քարտէզ, 5 պղնձեայ թագաւորը նստած քարտէզ: Մյասու, 1 փող: Աւոն Գ, 1 արծաթեայ թագուորին, 3 քարտէզ: Խումբը կը պարունակէ անվերագիլի հայ արծաթեայ դրամ մը, ինչպէս նաև այլ պղնձ մը վերագրուած Անտիոքի գովութեան՝ Թանքրէտ իշխանին:

Ցայտակագրուած դրամներու քառասուն առ հարիւրը կը պատկանին Հեթում Ա թագաւորին: Պէտք չէ մոռնալ որ Հեթում Ա թագաւորը իշխան 45 տարի: այս կիլիկիոյ թագաւորներու ամենէն երկար գահականութեան շրջանի:

Ինչպէս յիշուեան այս տեղեկագրութեան առաջին բաժնին մէջ, Անտիոք կիլիկիոյ հարաւային սահմանն վրայ եղած է: Նաև Հեթում Ա թագաւորի Սիպիլ գուստը հարս զացած է Անտիոքի Պոհմոնոն Զ գուքսին: Հեթում իր պարտականութիւնը նկատած է պաշտպաննել Անտիոք քաղաքը մամլուքներու յարձակումներուն դէմ: Նման քաղաքական պայմաններու ներքէ հասկալի է, թէ ինչպէս Անտիոք քաղաքի գովութեան դրամներն ու հայկական դրամները յայտնաբերուած են միատեղ Քինքթի պեղումներու ընթացքին: Եթ. Ներսէսեան

## A RECENT BRONZE COIN FORGERY OF TIGRANES II OF ARMENIA

An apparently new bronze coin forgery of Tigranes the Great made its appearance on the European ancient coin market in early 2013. Auction 92 of H. D. Rauch<sup>1</sup> included a bronze (lot 1133, enlarged illustration below, Fig. 1) attributed to Tigranes II of Armenia Major (95-56 BC) with the Antioch Tyche reverse. This piece is very attractive and virtually flawless; both obverse and reverse faces are nicely centered on a broad flan, the devices are fully struck, and essentially no traces of circulation wear or corrosion are apparent on the surfaces. The obverse depicts the bust of Tigranes facing right wearing his characteristic tiara, and the reverse shows the statue of Tyche seated on a rock holding a palm frond with a three-line legend. The piece is attributed as a variety of Nercessian 48<sup>2</sup> with a blundered legend, from the mint of Antiochia ad Orontem (Syria). The weight is 11.23 grams; the diameter and die rotation are not indicated. Estimated at 600 Euro, the lot reportedly sold for 700 Euro (about \$913 US).



Fig. 1. H. D. Rauch auction 92, lot 1133

Subsequently, this piece appeared as lot 915 in Gorny & Mosch auction 215<sup>3</sup>, with an estimate of 800 Euro (Fig. 2). It sold for a hammer price of 640 Euro. The G&M example has the

<sup>1</sup> Auktionshaus H.D. Rauch is located in Vienna, Austria. Auction 92 was sold on April 22-24, 2013. For the coin listing, see [http://www.acsearch.info/search.html?search=tigranes&view\\_mode=1&en=1&de=1&fr=1&it=1&es=1&ol=1&sort=&c=&a=&l=#10](http://www.acsearch.info/search.html?search=tigranes&view_mode=1&en=1&de=1&fr=1&it=1&es=1&ol=1&sort=&c=&a=&l=#10)

<sup>2</sup> Y. T. Nercessian, *Armenian Coins and Their Values* (Los Angeles: Armenian Numismatic Society, 1995), p. 62, coin 48.

<sup>3</sup> Gorny & Mosch Münzhandlung (abbreviated G&M) is located in Munich, Germany. Auction 215 closed on October 14-15, 2013. For the listing, see

exact same weight (11.23 grams), the same flan flaw (obverse 5 o'clock), and the same placement of devices on the flan, indicating that it is the exact same specimen as that sold by Rauch the preceding April. As before, the diameter and die axis are not given. An enlarged photograph of G & M lot 915 is provided below.



Fig. 2. Gorny & Mosch auction 215, lot 915

**There are several reasons to question the authenticity of this piece:**

- (1) The weight is significantly higher than the great majority of genuine coins of the same type. For example, in a hoard of 133 Tigranes II bronze coins published by Bedoukian in 1991 (including 70 normal and 11 overstruck Tyche reverse coins), Tyche reverse coins range in weight from 3.08 grams (lowest) to 9.20 grams (highest).<sup>4</sup> The weight of the piece described here exceeds the heaviest genuine coin of any type in this hoard by more than 2 grams!
- (2) The tiara peaks on this piece are shaped like narrow fingers with rounded points, whereas on most genuine coins of Tigranes, the peaks are either triangular in shape with a sharp point, or composed of pellets.
- (3) The circular border on the obverse of the subject piece is drawn as a plain solid circle. On genuine bronzes, this circle is constructed using fine pellets.
- (4) The star on the tiara is drawn as if it were a flower with rounded petals.
- (5) The portrait of Tigranes on this piece is awkward, and the space between the ear and neck flaps is not drawn correctly. Specifically, four nearly parallel lines appear in this space; this is never seen on genuine coins. Also, below the ear flap an unusual triangular field mark with a cross can be seen; this too is never seen on genuine silver or bronze coins.

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[https://www.gmcoinart.de/auction/K%C3%96NIGREICH%20ARMENIEN\\_Tigranes%20II%20,%20der%20Gro%C3%9Fe,%2095%20-%2056%20v%20%20Chr.aspx?rownum=3&backid=ib635140231395305861&lager=00105&los=915&ActiveID=1512&lang=en](https://www.gmcoinart.de/auction/K%C3%96NIGREICH%20ARMENIEN_Tigranes%20II%20,%20der%20Gro%C3%9Fe,%2095%20-%2056%20v%20%20Chr.aspx?rownum=3&backid=ib635140231395305861&lager=00105&los=915&ActiveID=1512&lang=en)

<sup>4</sup> Paul Z. Bedoukian, *A Hoard of Copper Coins of Tigranes the Great and a Hoard of Artaxiad Coins* (Los Angeles: Armenian Numismatic Society, 1991), pp. 8-12.

- (6) The legend is blundered beyond any semblance of accuracy. On genuine coins, the three-line legend reads from top to bottom beginning to the right of the statue. Although the lettering here is clear, all three words are spelled incorrectly. Several letters are upside down. The first word is unintelligible, and the first and third words read in the wrong direction.
- (7) On genuine coins of Tigranes, the goddess Tyche always wears a turreted crown. Here, the crown is replaced with a different type of headdress, and the body of Tyche is misshapen.
- (8) The swimmer in the river appears with a radiate crown or headgear. Ordinarily, coins of this type show the swimmer's head bare.

Hundreds of genuine Tigranes bronzes, of which the Antioch Tyche is the most commonly encountered reverse type, have been described and published over the past four decades. Although these coins typically vary in weight and style from example to example, none are so egregiously incorrect in so many respects as the piece described here. To the best of this author's knowledge, until its appearance in Rauch auction 92, no example similar to this one had appeared in print.

The provenance of this piece is unknown at present.<sup>5</sup> Although care was obviously taken to fabricate an attractive and eye-appealing imitation, the very serious metrologic, epigraphic and stylistic problems noted above indicate that the maker was not familiar with the technical details of genuine Artaxiad coins. In the absence of substantial convincing evidence to the contrary, this piece must be considered a recently manufactured forgery.

L. A. Saryan, Ph.D

## ARMENIAN NUMISMATIC LITERATURE

4 STOLYARIK, Elena. Collections, New Acquisitions; [Armenia, Komitas], by Elena Stolyarik, *American Numismatic Society Magazine*, Vol. 13 (2014), No. 1, pp. 56-57, illus. A medal dedicated to composer Komitas (1869-1935) is described. The commemorative medal portrays the bust of Komitas on the obverse; the signature of Komitas and three cranes are displayed on the reverse. The medal is sculpted by Mnazakan Tamrasican (1966). It is donated to the American Numismatic Society collection by Robert W. Schaaaf.

YTN

Նկարագրուած է երգահան Կոմիտսախն (1869-1935) նուիրուած մեղալ մը: Յուշամեղալի երեսին վրայ պատկերուած է Կոմիտսախն կիսանդրին. և կը ներկայացնէ Կոմիտսախ ստորագրութիւնն ու երեք կուռնկներ կոնակին վրայ: Մեղալը քանդակուած է Մնացական Թամրազեանի կողմէ: (1966): Նուիրուած է Ամերիկեան Դրամագիտական Ընկերակցութեան ժողովածուին Robert W. Schaaaf կողմէ:

Եթւ

<sup>5</sup> A communication was sent to G&M dated 5 September 2013 requesting evidence that might confirm the authenticity of this lot. A reply has not been received as of this writing.

## LETTERS AND E-MAILS TO THE EDITOR

My desktop computer died and I am trying to recover the data files. The drafts are there. It may be a few more days before I know what is going to happen, we can hope for the best.

The ANS magazine latest issue (pp. 56-57) has a paragraph about the bronze medal of Komitas from 1966. It's worth a citation in numismatic literature.

Levon Saryan

I have recently purchased a lead Roupenian Armenian Renaissance Style Portrait coin. In 2005, Michael Dennis O'Hara has requested any new finds to be reported or shared with him. Not sure if he is around or if anyone has any more interest in this coin. The coin is lead (one of three in existence) and I feel the name is very well struck. Also, hayots is spelled backwards I believe. The reverse is open to interpretation but going from 12:00, to the left I believe there is an "H" as the first letter. The coin also shows the "compass line" distinctly. Can you forward this email? I can split this up into two or three emails. You may put it into ANS if you like as a follow up to the 2005 article. Not sure if more has been written since them.

Dr. Chuck Hajinian

Tser Bilingual tramneru kirki gi gartam, hartsum mi unim, yete badashkanek sad urakh bidi illam. Araperen inchbes gisek STRUCK IN THE CITY OF SIS Yeti gi hacik Latin darer kordza-deerk.

Garo Lachinian

We received the books today. Thank you very much for the prompt shipment and the good package. You are unbelievably efficient! All the best for you and the Society. Two more questions:

- What is the meaning of **OUT OF PRINT, author's copy?**
- All other titles are available as described in the catalogue?

Demetrius Siatras, Greece

Here is an article I have written concerning the image on the coronation trams of Levon I. It is not exhaustive but presents never discussed issues that, I believe will settle who is on the coin. Please email questions or concerns. Thank you for your steadfast work for our heritage.

LEVON I CORONATION TRAMS.docx

Chuck Hajinian, DDS

## ARTICLES REMAINING UNPUBLISHED

The Armenian Coin Auctions of 2013 and 2014, by Y. T. Nercessian

Selected Armenian Numismatic Bibliography of Ancient and Medieval Periods, 2001-2010, by Y. T. Nercessian

Articles on Gosdantin coins by Fr. Clement Sibilian and Paul Z. Bedoukian, translated into English by L. A. Saryan

A New Reading of the Legends on and Attribution of Coins of Baron Gosdantin I of Armenian Cilicia, by A. Tangamyan

Պերճ Ս. Ապրանենակի դրամագիտական և հնագիտական ժողովածուն, Վերակազմո՞ղ՝ Սովոր Ներսեսյան

## DONATIONS

(Period ending 30 September 2014)

Baenen, Paul A.	\$50.00	Kovacs, Frank	\$20.00
Dillon, Rudy	\$15.00	Saryan, L. A.	\$10.00
Hajinian, Peter	\$25.00	Setian, Charles	\$50.00
Kalindjian, Garo	\$40.00		

## CLASSIFICATION OF THE COINS OF GOSDANTIN I (1298-1299)

By Father Clement Sibilian  
Translated by L. A. Saryan, Ph.D.

### Translator's Introduction

The first reliable attribution of the gold, silver, and copper coins of King Gosdantin I of Cilician Armenia was made by the prominent Mekhitarist scholar Fr. Clement (Ghemes) Sibilian, the relevant portions of whose important monograph on Roupenian coins<sup>1</sup> we offer below in English translation.

Fr. Sibilian, who worked actively from the 1850s until his untimely death in 1878, challenged the attributions published by the venerable French antiquarian and Armenophile Victor Langlois in 1855. Langlois attributed to King Gosdantin III (1344-1363) the gold and silver coins which are now assigned to King Gosdantin I.<sup>2</sup> Accordingly, Sibilian felt obliged (in the translation below) to explain in some detail his reasons for deviating from the opinion of Langlois.

A few words should be added here regarding the numbering of the various Gosdantins who ruled in Cilician Armenia, as this can be a source of confusion for modern readers. Five rulers named Gosdantin controlled the Armenian government during the three-century existence of the Cilician state. Baron Gosdantin, son of Roupen who was the founder of the Cilician principality, ruled from 1095-1100. The first King Gosdantin, about whom this article pertains, did not come until two centuries later (1298-1299). The next King Gosdantin, who is always named Gi on his coins according to the French usage, ruled from 1342-1344. Gi was succeeded by a third King Gosdantin (1344-1363), and in turn by a fourth King Gosdantin (1365-1373).

In the nineteenth century, when Sibilian wrote, it was customary practice to begin the numbering of the Cilician rulers in 1080 AD with the founding of the Roupenian dynasty. Twentieth century numismatists and other scholars reassigned the numbering of the kings beginning in 1198, when Baron Levon II was crowned as King Levon I, the first king of Cilician Armenia. Although this chapter is labeled "Gosdantin II," there is nevertheless no question that the Gosdantin with whom we are here concerned was King Gosdantin I, who ruled in 1298 and 1299. Accordingly, the new numbering is employed in this translation.

The transliteration used here follows that employed in English language numismatic literature. The accompanying figures are taken from Sibilian's original plates. A few clarifications and comments have been added in brackets, and some extra footnotes are inserted, all of which are enclosed in brackets with the translator's initials.

<sup>1</sup> Fr. Clement Sibilian, *Tasavoroutiun Roupenian Tramots*, edited by Fr. Krikoros Kalemkarian (Vienna: Mekhitarist Press, 1892), pp. 48-50. Although published in 1892, Sibilian's book was essentially complete before his death in 1878.

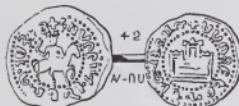
<sup>2</sup> Victor Langlois, *Numismatique de l'Arménie au Moyen Age* (Paris: Camille Rollin, 1855), pp. 90-92.

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Gosdantin I waged battle against Smpad to defend the right of King Hetoum II, since during Hetoum's two-year absence, [Smpad] had ruled. In histories, it is noted that the soldiers of Gosdantin and Smpad had fought against each other, brother against brother, under the walls of Sis. Finally, Gosdantin I was victorious and occupied the Sis fortress.

### Gold

Gosdantin has only one gold piece, kept at the Venice Mekhitarist Museum, on whose obverse is written "Gosdantin King of Armenians" (ԳՈՅԱՆԻ ՏԱՅԱՐԱՆԻ ՏՅԱ ՀԱՅՈՒՅ) and on the reverse "he is king of the castle Sis" (ՍԱՅԻ ԲԵՐԿՈՒ Ե ԲԱԿԱՆԻ-ՈՒ).<sup>3</sup> I have personally examined this coin many times and verified its authenticity. Until now, the reading on the reverse side of this gold piece has not been correct. Langlois<sup>4</sup> has given an incorrect interpretation, reading that supposedly "the castle of Sis is royal".<sup>5</sup> However, to read the legend correctly and obtain the correct meaning, we should instead read "he is king of the castle Sis".<sup>6</sup> The word "castle" (ԲԵՐԿՈՒ) should be read in the possessive case, with the letters Ե and Ւ ligatured, reading ԵՒ, just as on the silver Gosdantianos coin [discussed below] where the letters Ո and Ւ are joined together. The meaning then becomes clear when the word is read "of the castle" (ԲԵՐԿՈՒ).<sup>7</sup>



No. 1, Gold coin

When Gosdantin defeated Smpad and captured the fortress of Sis, he struck this gold piece as a memorial to publicize his victory and announce this defeat of the enemy to the entire country. Because the weight of this gold<sup>8</sup> does not correspond to the weights of Byzantine nor Arabic gold coin weights, I believe that this gold coin was not struck as a *tahegan* coin intended to be passed in commerce, but rather as a medal.<sup>9</sup>

### Silver

Equestrian coins of the Roupenian kings generally display as the royal emblem a lily on a staff or a cross. On this gold piece of Gosdantin, however, deviating from the general form and custom, [the king] is carrying a sword in his hand. This has an intentional significance. The obvious implication is that Gosdantin fought with the sword to defend the rights of the royal throne,

<sup>3</sup> [Some letters in the reverse legend are ligatures. LAS]

<sup>4</sup> [Langlois, p. 90. LAS]

<sup>5</sup> [Langlois, p. 90, writes in French "C'est le chateau royal de Sis." LAS]

<sup>6</sup> [Sibilian writes in French "Il est roi du chateau de Sis." LAS]

<sup>7</sup> [Sibilian notes parenthetically that this coin is illustrated in plate IV, no. 42. LAS]

<sup>8</sup> [Paul Z. Bedoukian, in *Coinage of Cilician Armenia* (New York: American Numismatic Society, 1962), p. 71, gives the weight of this coin as 3.6 grams]. LAS]

<sup>9</sup> Sibilian, p. 15. [Attention is directed to p. 15 of Sibilian's monograph, where Father Kalemkiarian offers a general discussion of the question of Armenian gold coins. LAS]

rising against the usurper Smpad and his injustices. Apparently imitating the example set by the Crusaders, he went to war to uphold Hetoum's rights.

This is confirmed by an attractive silver coin in the Royal Museum of Vienna<sup>10</sup> on which Gosdantianos is standing, facing forward, one hand holding a sword and the other hand a cross, once again as a soldier crusading against Smpad's sympathizers. On the obverse [the legend reads] "Gosdantianos King of Armenian" (ԿՈՍԱՆԻՒՄԱՆՈՒ ԹԱՐՈՒ ՀԱՅ), and on the other side "by the empowerment of God he is king" (ԿԱՐՈՂՈՒԹՔՆ ԱՅ Է ԹԱԳՈՒ).<sup>11</sup>



Fig. 2, Silver coin

Such a strong resemblance in the word "king" [between the obverse of the silver] and the reverse side of the gold medal is only infrequently seen on the legends of Roupenian coins.<sup>12</sup> On the opposite side of the silver coin the equestrian king holds a sword in his hand similar to the image on the gold medal. The silver fineness of this coin is intermediate but the artwork is noteworthy. This coin, in the Royal Museum of Vienna, is virtually unique as far as I know.<sup>13</sup>

#### Copper

There is also a copper coin which is the same size and same fine [workmanship] as the copper coin of Smpad, on the obverse of which is written "Gosdantianos King A" (ԿՈՍԱՆԻՒՄԱՆՈՒ ԹԱԳ Հ). The king is standing facing forward, holding a sword and a cross in his hands, in all with the style and design of the silver Gosdantian coin. The reverse reads "Made in the city Sis" (ՇԻՆԵԼ, ՔԱՂԱՔՆ ՍԻՆԻ).<sup>14</sup>

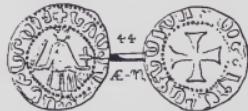


Fig. 3, Copper coin

The diameter of this copper, being of exactly the same diameter as the coppers of Smpad, this [coin] pertains to the middle Roupenian period; and since it resembles the coppers of Smpad it is

<sup>10</sup> [Bedoukian, p. 334, records that this specimen is presently housed in the Kunsthistorisches (Art History) Museum of Vienna. LAS]

<sup>11</sup> [Some letters in the legends are ligatures. Sibilian notes parenthetically that the coin is illustrated on Plate IV, no. 43. LAS]

<sup>12</sup> [Sibilian is clearly suggesting that the formation of the letters on the gold and silver coins is so similar that they are probably the work of a single die cutter. LAS]

<sup>13</sup> [This statement is no longer accurate. Several other examples have been found since. LAS]

<sup>14</sup> [Sibilian notes parenthetically that this coin is illustrated in plate IV, no. 44. LAS]

obvious that the Gosdantin copper can only belong to the contemporaneous Gosdantin who fought against Smpad [and thus not to any other king of the same name]. Furthermore, since the image on this copper being exactly the same as that on the silver, that silver also is to be ascribed to the same Gosdantin I, as well as the gold. Because all three of them show the sword in the hand, again I reiterate that the diameter of the copper coin confirms the attribution of the silver and the gold. Therefore, the Gosdantin gold and silver [coins] which Langlois gave to Gosdantin III<sup>15</sup> must of course be returned to Gosdantin I.

Fr. Mikael Chamchian, when speaking in his history<sup>16</sup> about Gosdantin I, only for this Gosdantin does he write that “Gosdantin, whom they also called Gosdantianos, was himself seated as king.” On the above-mentioned silver and copper coins the reading ԿՈՍՏՈՎԻՒՒՆՈՒ ԹՈՎՈՒՒՆՈՒ (King Gosdantianos) likely gives additional support to our attribution. This is because when speaking of other Gosdantins, there is no indication that the others were called by this variant of the name. Also, when speaking about this Gosdantin I, sometimes the name ԿՈՍՏՈՎԻՒՒՆՈՒ is encountered in manuscripts.

Of these coins, the Mekhitarist Museum in Vienna has five examples of the copper of Gosdantin I.

**DR. PAUL Z. BEDOUKIAN ON  
FR. CLEMENT SIIlian**

“... Sibilian wrote several important articles. Father Sibilian was a member of the Armenian Roman Catholic Mekhitarian order in Vienna, an order established in 1717 in St. Lazare, Venice, by Mekhitar of Sebastia. In 1811, some members of the order moved to Vienna. Both branches of the order have made extremely valuable contributions to Armenian culture. The Mekhitarists today have large collections of Armenian books and impressive number of ancient Armenian manuscripts. Vienna possesses by far the largest collection of Roupenian coins, and the collection in Venice is also important. Scholars have long depended on these two establishments for their source of information on Armenian studies. Neither Sestini nor Langlois could have carried out their studies without the active assistance of the Mekhitarists.

Sibilian can be considered the father of Armenian numismatics. His writings were based on exhaustive studies and have proved remarkably accurate. On Sibilian’s death Schlumberger wrote, «le Père Cl. Sibilian, qui connaissait admirablement cette branche de l’archéologie arménienne et qui l’avait étudiée à la fois en patriote fervent, et en numismatiste distingué n’est plus.»

Excerpted from *Coinage of Cilician Armenia*, 1979 edition, p. xxvii

<sup>15</sup> Fr. Ghevont Alishan (*Stsouan* (Venice: San Lazzaro, 1885), p. 216, note 2) wants to assign [these coins] to King Gosdantin III: “Since the first King Gosdantin, the son of King Levon II, ruled for a very short time, and because the last Gosdantin ruled during very impoverished times, this coin was struck by Gosdantin III (1345-1363), the son of Marshal Baldwin. (In the original the final “3” is incorrectly printed as a “5.”) Perhaps this indicates to some that he was a usurper of the fortress of Sis, while others do not believe he reigned in and over Sis.”

<sup>16</sup> Mikayel Chamchian, *Badmoutian Hayots*, Vol. III (Venice: San Lazzaro, 1786), p. 297. [This citation pertains to the Armenian edition. LAS]

# THE COINS OF THE CILICIAN KING GOSDANTIN I (1298-1299)

By Paul Z. Bedoukian  
Translated by L. A. Saryan, Ph.D.

## Translator's Introduction

The late numismatic scholar Dr. Paul Z. Bedoukian began collecting Armenian coins as a youngster, but did not embark on serious numismatic research and writing until the 1950s. In order to compose his book *Coinage of Cilician Armenia*<sup>1</sup> he realized that he would need to gather data from large collections in several countries of the world. To that end he traveled to Europe to research the holdings of several prominent museums and private collections. The largest of these was located at the famous Mekhitarist Monastery in Vienna, Austria. In gratitude for their co-operation and hospitality in allowing him to study their extensive numismatic collection, Bedoukian promised Archbishop Mesrop Habozian, the monastery's chief abbot, that he would contribute an article each year for their scholarly periodical.

The first of several studies that he penned in fulfillment of this promise was an investigation of the coinage of King Gosdantin I of Cilician Armenia, published in the journal *Handes Amsorya* in 1958.<sup>2</sup> It is this study that is offered below in English translation. This was one of Paul's earliest publications on Armenian numismatics and to the best of our knowledge the first of many to appear in the Armenian language. Fifty-five years after its initial publication, we present it here for the contemplation of our readers.

Gosdantin I ruled the Cilician kingdom for less than one year (1298-1299) during a very sad and turbulent time in Armenia's history. Nevertheless, he struck coins in gold, silver, and copper that are significant for their original artistic designs (which depart from the iconography used by other Cilician kings), careful execution, and extreme rarity.

This article offers a snapshot of what was known about the coinage of Gosdantin I in the mid 1950s. The inventory presented here records just two gold tahegans, three silver trams, and eleven copper kardezzes, with an additional three coppers included as an addendum after the article was first submitted for publication. Paul also introduces an unresolved mystery concerning Gosdantin's gold coinage, which has yet to be unraveled despite the passage of more than half a century. Although many more coins of Gosdantin are known today, the coins of this king continue to be among the rarest and most sought after in the Cilician Armenia series. Moreover, discoveries over the past fifteen years have revealed unexpected new jewels in Gosdantin's numismatic crown.

To help readers better appreciate the text I have added some comments and clarifications in brackets and inserted additional footnotes, also enclosed in brackets and indicated by the initials LAS. The numbering of the footnotes is therefore not the same as in the original article. The transliteration system used follows that employed in English language numismatic literature.

<sup>1</sup> Paul Z. Bedoukian, *Coinage of Cilician Armenia* (New York: American Numismatic Society, 1962).

<sup>2</sup> The original article (written in Armenian) appeared in *Handes Amsorya* (1958), no. 10, pp. 381-390, and is reprinted in *Selected Numismatic Studies of Paul Z. Bedoukian* (Los Angeles: Armenian Numismatic Society, 1981), pp. 334-338.

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During the Armenian rule of Cilicia (1080-1375) several princes and kings struck thousands of coins which have reached our hands. Except for the scarce bilingual (Armenian and Arabic) trams of Hetoum I and the very rare Latin-inscribed coins of Levon I, all of these coins are inscribed with Armenian letters.

In spite of the existence of a wealth of [numismatic] material, our coins have not been studied adequately and at present Armenian numismatics is virgin soil which requires tilling. This article is dedicated to the examination of the coins of King Gondantin I.

To better appreciate the numismatic issues, it is worth casting a glance at the historical circumstances that prevailed during this period. We can see that, during that time, in spite of the fact that Cilicia was living under the mortal threat of outside enemies, members of the royal family were occupied with fratricidal battles. While these conflicts may be disheartening [for Armenians] we must keep in mind that during those days all nations were afflicted with similar crises and pains. Poisonings and murders had become commonplace and essentially acceptable occurrences within royal families.

King Levon II [of Cilician Armenia] died on February 6, 1289. He had eleven children, of whom nine were alive at the time of his death.<sup>3</sup> Five male children fought with each other and [at various times] four of them ascended the throne.<sup>4</sup> After the death of Levon II, the throne was acquired by Hetoum II. Although he was a capable and popular individual, he was very religiously minded and did not wish to be anointed king nor devote himself to the affairs of state. For this reason, in 1293, he handed the throne to the next brother Toros, and retired to a monastery where he preferred to be called Frater Johannes (Brother John). Because of the difficult situation the country faced, Toros and the princes requested that Hetoum again assume the reins of government, and that took place in 1295.

A year later, Hetoum and Toros together embarked on a journey to Constantinople to visit their sister Rita, who was the queen of the Byzantine Empire. The reins of the government were handed to the next brother, Smpad. Taking advantage of the situation, Smpad won over the catholicos<sup>5</sup> and some of the princes, and declared himself king. To strengthen his hand, Smpad appealed to Ghazan, Great Khan of the Tatars<sup>6</sup> who recognized him as king of the Armenians. When Hetoum and Toros returned from Byzantium, Smpad had them arrested and imprisoned, Hetoum in the castle of Molovan<sup>7</sup> and Toros in Partzrpert. Seven months later, thinking that perhaps the presence of the two brothers would endanger his position, he had Toros strangled to death and Hetoum blinded by searing. This act [of Smpad] seemed so intolerable to his brother

<sup>3</sup> [According to the genealogical chart table III prepared by Count W. H. Rüdt-Collenberg, Levon and his wife Keran had 14 children. Two illegitimate children are also recorded. W. H. Rüdt-Collenberg, *The Rupenides Hethumides and Lusignans: The Structure of the Armeno-Cilician Dynasties* (Paris: Librairie C. Klicksieck, 1963). LAS]

<sup>4</sup> [The five sons were Hetoum, Toros, Smpad, Gondantin, and Oshin. No coins of Toros are known, and it is thought that he did not issue any coins, presumably because he only served as a caretaker of the affairs of state when Hetoum retired to a monastery. LAS]

<sup>5</sup> [The reigning catholicos was Grigor Anavarzatsi. LAS]

<sup>6</sup> [At this time, the Mongols (sometimes referred to as Tatars) were allies of the Armenian kingdom. LAS]

<sup>7</sup> [Molovan, also known as Milvan, was located near the Cilician Gates. See Robert W. Edwards, *The Fortifications of Armenian Cilicia* (Washington, D.C.: Dumbarton Oaks Research Library and Collection, 1987), pp. 195-198. LAS]

Gosdantin that the latter gathered sympathizers and rose against Smpad, and the two opponents spilled blood in a fratricidal struggle. Gosdantin was victorious, and capturing Smpad he imprisoned him in the fortress of Gaban. Hetoum was then released, but because he was blind he allowed Gosdantin to rule the kingdom.

Gosdantin was the first king of that name, even though two hundred years earlier (1095-1099) a son of Roupen I named Gosdantin had ruled over Cilicia. For this reason, some [writers] incorrectly name him Gosdantin II, which is not accurate since he was the first Gosdantin who ruled as king.

Contemporary chroniclers have called him [by several names, including] Tantin,<sup>8</sup> Dntin,<sup>9</sup> Gosdantin,<sup>10</sup> Gosdantz,<sup>11</sup> Gosdantianos,<sup>12</sup> etc., which are simply variations of the same name. It is also noted [in the chronicles] that Gosdantin ruled nine months<sup>13</sup> or ten months,<sup>14</sup> while others claim one year or even one-half of a year.<sup>15</sup>

It is apparent that Gosdantin ruled for nine or ten months. When Hetoum regained his eyesight, the princes requested that he once again take the throne. Gosdantin was unhappy [with this turn of events]; he reconciled with his brother and former opponent Smpad and [together the two] rose against Hetoum. However, the Armenian people, the princes, and the Knights of the Templar and Hospitaler orders all took Hetoum's side. As a result, the two rebellious brothers were defeated without much difficulty, captured, and exiled to Byzantium where they remained until their deaths.

As can be seen, Gosdantin I reigned for barely nine to ten months and [therefore] did not have time to strike large quantities of coins. The time required to create the designs and to prepare the dies (molds) of course took a few months; consequently the coins were perhaps struck over a six-month period. Thus, it is understandable that the coins are encountered infrequently and are in fact very rare. It is also possible to suppose that when Hetoum defeated Gosdantin, any coins of Gosdantin found in the mint at Sis were melted, since they were the coins of a usurper.

Nevertheless, it is apparent that Gosdantin devoted great importance to coin production, since his coins are prepared with great care and with a completely new and artistic style. It is surprising that in that short span of time he was able to strike gold as well as silver and copper coins.



No.1, Gold

<sup>8</sup> V. A. Hakobyan, *Manr Jhamanakakrutiunner, XIII-XVIII C* (Yerevan: Armenian SSR Academy of Sciences Press, 1956), p. 170.

<sup>9</sup> Hakobyan, p. 150

<sup>10</sup> Hakobyan, p. 170, 183; Garegin Hovsepian, *Hishdakrank Tzerakrats*, vol. I (Antelias, Lebanon: 1951), p. 530.

<sup>11</sup> Fr. Ghevont Alishan, *Hayapatoum* (Venice: San Lazzaro, 1905), p. 490.

<sup>12</sup> Fr. Mikayel Chamichian, *Patmoutiun Hayots*, vol. III (Venice: San Lazzaro, 1786), p. 297.

<sup>13</sup> Hakobyan, p. 183.

<sup>14</sup> Hakobyan, p. 170.

<sup>15</sup> Hovsepian, p. 530.

## Gold

Sibilian,<sup>16</sup> in his key work *Classification of Roupenian Coins*, gives the line drawing of the gold coin of Goshdantin I. This coin, found in the Venice Mekhitarist monastery, was examined by Sibilian who determined it to be genuine<sup>17</sup> and, in his opinion, struck not for circulation but as a medal. I have also examined this coin and reached the same conclusion. Also, with the permission of the chief abbot, His Eminence [Srapion] Oulouhochian, I took a plaster cast of this coin, a photograph of which I present here (Fig. 1). This coin was [originally] the property of Bedros Markar Alishan, father of [the renowned Mekhitarist scholar and antiquarian] Father Ghevont Alishan, from whom it passed to the monastery.<sup>18</sup>

The obverse of the coin shows the king seated on a horse, crowned, and facing forward. The horse is walking to [the observer's] right. With his right hand [the king] is holding a sword and with his left he holds the [horse's] reins. The obverse legend (see table I) is ԿՈՍՏԱՆԻԱՆ թա ԱՅԱ.8 (Goshdantin King of Armenians). The reverse side shows a castle with three towers, and the reading ՍՈՅԹ ՔԵՐԻ կ ԹԱԳԱՆՈՒ (is the king of the castle of Sis).

Langlois<sup>19</sup> mentions this coin in his book and gives its freehand drawing (Plate III, no. 9). As sometimes happens, the artist who draws the coin is not a numismatist, and the letters are not drawn correctly. Sibilian points out that Langlois gives an incorrect interpretation of the reverse legend. Even though Sibilian examined the coin and provides a correct reading he was, perhaps compelled, to give an incorrect drawing of the coin in his book.<sup>20</sup> Basmadjian<sup>21</sup> as well gives the same drawing and based upon this drawing he presents a totally incorrect reading.

We have stated that this unique gold coin of Goshdantin I was known to Langlois, Sibilian, Alishan and Basmadjian. But Basmadjian [also] gives a drawing of a second gold coin of Goshdantin I. The obverse is similar to the former [example] but the reverse towers [of the castle] have a different design. The legends on both sides [of the second coin] are the same as on the first coin.

It is apparent that Basmadjian borrowed these illustrations from the book by Jacques de Morgan.<sup>22</sup> In his preface, de Morgan writes that all of the drawings in his book were made by him personally. Thus, we know the source of the second gold coin. It appears that de Morgan did not always base his drawings on the actual coin, since his picture of the Venice example is definitely taken from the incorrect drawing by Langlois, with unfortunate artistic enhancement. It is not certain whether the drawing of the second example is made from an actual coin, or taken from a book.

<sup>16</sup> Fr. C. Sibilian, *Tasavoroutiun Roupenian Tramots* (Vienna: Mekhitarist Press, 1892), p. 48, and plate IV, no. 42.

<sup>17</sup> [Bedoukian writes "geghdz che" which is literally translated as not counterfeit. LAS]

<sup>18</sup> [In *Coinage of Cilician Armenia*, p. 71, Bedoukian mentions the existence of a second example of the first gold coin, struck with the same dies, reposing in the collection of the Istanbul Archaeological Museum. He became aware of the existence of this second example only after this article was printed. LAS]

<sup>19</sup> Victor Langlois, *Numismatique de l'Arménie au Moyen Age* (Paris: 1855), plate III, no. 9

<sup>20</sup> [The translator does not understand why this should have been the case. LAS]

<sup>21</sup> K. J. Basmadjian, *Numismatique Générale de l'Armenie* (Venice: San Lazzaro, 1936), p. 165.

<sup>22</sup> Jacques de Morgan, *The History of the Armenian People* (Boston: Hairenik Press, 1952), p. 243. [The original edition in French appeared in 1919. LAS]

It is also worth mentioning that Basmadjian<sup>23</sup> gives a list of fourteen Roupenian gold coins that were known at that time, and adds two others that were known to him. It is, however, important to note that a second gold coin of Gosdantin is not mentioned in his list.

In spite of my efforts, I have been unable to solve the riddle posed by this coin.



No. 3, Silver

#### Silver

Langlois<sup>24</sup> provides a description of a Gosdantin I silver tram and an inaccurate drawing and, as for the gold coin, he ascribes this coin to Gosdantin III (1345-1363). He also reads the legend incorrectly. Sibilian<sup>25</sup> gives the same illustration in his book but provides the correct reading. Basmadjian uses the same drawing in his book, which he borrows from de Morgan.<sup>26</sup>

This silver coin, which has long been in the Kunsthistorisches Museum of Vienna, was thought to be the only known example. The obverse, as on the gold coin, shows the king seated on a horse, crowned, holding a sword in his right hand and the reins of the horse in his left. The horse is walking to the observer's right. The legend (Table I) reads ԿՈՍՏԱՆԴԻԱՆՈՍ ԹԱԳՈՐ ՀԱՅ (Gosdantin King of Armenians). On the reverse, the king is standing facing forward and holding a sword upright in his right hand and a cross in his left. The legend reads ԿԱՐՈՂԻԹԵԱՄԲԻ ԱՅ ի ԹԱԳՈՐ (by the empowerment of God he is king).

Haigazn Hapeshian<sup>27</sup> writes that, in the rich collection of Catholicos Sahag Khabayan in Sis, he saw a silver tram of Gosdantin I exactly like the one in Vienna, but in better condition. We do not know what happened to that coin.

Fortunately, in my collection there are two other trams of Gosdantin I. One of these was purchased from Armenag Poladian of Beirut and donated to the Vienna Mekhitarist Museum, and the other is from the Dikran Khan Kelekian collection, which passed entirely into my hands. These two coins resemble the one described above but have different readings. The first reads ԿՈՍՏԱՆԴԻԱՆՈՍ ԹԱԳՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՑ (Gosdantin King of Armenians) / ԿԱՐՈՂԻԹԵԲԻ ԱՅ ի ԹԱԳՈՐ (by the empowerment of God he is king) and the second reads ԿՈՍՏԱՆԴԻԻ ԹԱԳԱԿՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՑ (Gosdantin King of Armenians) / ԿԱՐՈՂԻԹԵԲԻ ԱՅ ի ԹԱԳՈՐ (by the empowerment of God he is king) (table I).



No. 6, Copper

<sup>23</sup> Basmadjian, p. 143.

<sup>24</sup> Victor Langlois, *Numismatique de l'Arménie au Moyen Age* (Paris: 1855), p. 91, Table III, no. 10.

<sup>25</sup> Sibilian, p. 49, table IV, no. 43.

<sup>26</sup> Basmadjian, p. 165.

<sup>27</sup> Haikazn Hapeshian, *Azadamar Weekly*, no. 34 (Constantinople, 1911), p. 544. [The title of the article referred to is "Ancient Coins" and appeared in the 6/19 March 1911 issue of this periodical. LAS]

Թ.իւ	Արեւադակ	Ա. և Բ. կողմի ընթերցուածք	Հայոց արժեք	Կրում	Տեղը
1	Ասկի	ԿՈՍՄԱՆԴԻՆ ԲԳ ՀԱՅԱՅ ՍՍՈՅ ԲԵՐԴԻՆ Է ՐԱԳԱՄ ԿՈՍՐԵՆԴԻՆ ԲԳ ՀԱՅԱՅ ՍՍՈՅ ԲԵՐԴԻՆ Է ՐԱԳԱՄ	↑	3.6	Վեհապետ Միթթաբեան
2	Ասկի	ԿՈՍՐԵՆԴԻՆ ԲԳ ՀԱՅԱՅ ՍՍՈՅ ԲԵՐԴԻՆ Է ՐԱԳԱՄ			?
3	Արծաթ	ԿՈՍՄԱՆԴԻԱՆՈՒ ՐԱԳԴ ՀԱՅ ԿԱՐՈՉՈՒՐԲՆ ԱՅ Է ՐԱԳԴ	↑	2.8	Վեհապետ Թանգարան Բ. Զ. Պատուկեան
4	Արծաթ	ԿՈՍՄԱՆԴԻՆ ՐԱԳՈՒՐ ՀԱՅՈՒ ԿԱՐՈՉՈՒՐԲՆ ԱՅ Է ՐԱԳԴ	↑	2.6	Նիւ Եօրք
5	Արծաթ	ԿՈՍՄԱՆԴԻԱՆՈՒ ՐԱԳԴ ՀԱՅՈՒ ԿԱՐՈՉՈՒՐԲՆ ԱՅ Է ՐԱԳԴ	↑	3.0	Վեհապետ Միթթաբեան
6	Պղինձ	ԿՈՍՄԱՆԴԻԱՆՈՒ ՐԱԳ ԵԽԵԼ ԳԱԶԿԳՆ ՍԻՒ	•	2.5	Վեհապետ Միթթաբեան
7	Պղինձ	Նոյն Կնիք	•	1.85	Վեհապետ Բ. Զ. Պատուկեան Նիւ Եօրք
8	Պղինձ	"	〃		
9	Պղինձ	"	〃	2.7	Ա. Տօնապետան Պէյրութ
10	Պղինձ	"	•	2.45	Վեհապետ Միթթաբեան Bibl. Nat. Paris
11	Պղինձ	Նոյն Կնիք	•		
12	Պղինձ	ԿՈՍՄԱՆԴԻԱՆՈՒ ՐԱԳԴ ԵԽԵԼ ԳԱԶԿԳՆ ՍԻՒ	•	2.5	Վեհապետ Միթթաբեան Bibl. Nat. Paris
13	Պղինձ	Ա. Կողմէ ԲԻ 10Ի պէս ԵԽԵԼ ՖԱՐԱԲՆ ՍԻՒ	•		
14	Պղինձ	Նոյն Կնիք	〃		
15	Պղինձ	ԿՈՍՄԱՆ ԱՆ ՐԱԳԴ (Անորոշ)	?	1.15	Վեհապետ Միթթաբեան
16	Պղինձ	Լիբանանի Հաւաքանցի ՏԸ ՏԸ			

Table I, Catalogue of gold, silver, and copper coins

## Copper

Fortunately, we know of the existence of eleven copper coins. Even though these resemble each other, the readings have variations which establish that during the short reign of Gосdantin I many dies were prepared and used.

The obverse of the copper coins exactly resemble the silvers: the king is facing forward, standing with a sword in the right hand and a cross in the left. The obverse legend reads ԿՈՍՏԱՆԴԻՒՆՈՒ ԹԱԳՈՒ (Gосdantianos King) with numerous variations. On the reverse of these coins is seen a cross with equal arms, decorated and with pellets, with the legend ԹՒՅԸ, ՔԱՂԱՔԻ ՍԻՆ է (is made in the city Sis) again with variations.

Of these coppers five are in the Vienna Mekhitarist Museum, two are in the numismatic museum of the National Library of France (Bibliothèque Nationale Musée de Medailles), one in my collection, one in a private collection in Lebanon, and two in the collection of Prof. Asbed Donabedian of Beirut.

## Origins of the Design of Gосdantin I Coins

Examination of these coins leaves the impression that Gосdantin sought, through the medium of his coins, to establish that he was the victor and the ruling king of the castle of Sis, and that he was victorious with the help of the sword and the cross. The beauty of his coins seems to be a deliberate effort to emphasize this fact.

It remains to examine the source of the designs [used on these coins]. The king on horseback design is very different from the horseman coins of Hetoum I and Levon II, even though here the king is holding a sword instead of a mace or spear. Similar horseman coins were used by Sultan Kiliж Arslan (1156-1188) of Iconium and his successors.<sup>28</sup> Before that, they are seen on the royal seals of Byzantium and the kings of Western Europe. And, the figure of the castle seen on the reverse of the gold coin is reminiscent of certain coins of the Crusader princes.<sup>29</sup> On the obverse of the silver coins again is the same horseman, while the reverse showing the standing king resembles the coins of the Crusaders of Edessa struck one hundred years earlier<sup>30</sup> although the artistic work on the coins of Gосdantin is more attractive. The obverse of the coppers is again the standing king while the reverse is a cross with equal arms. The cross, of course, is often seen on the coins of Christian kings.

## Addendum

After this paper was submitted for publication, Prof. Asbed Donabedian of Beirut informed us that he had acquired three additional copper coins of Gосdantin I. The honorable professor sent us impressions of these coins, from which we learned that one of them resembles coin no. 6 [in the table], one resembles coin no. 12, and the obverse of third resembles coin no. 12, while the reverse is inscribed ԹՒՅԸ, ՔԱՂԱՔԻ ՍԻՆ (made in the city of Sis), which indicates the existence of a new die. This addition brings the total number of [known] copper examples to fourteen.

<sup>28</sup> W. Marsden, *Oriental Coins* (London, 1823), pp. 88-90, Vol. I, plate VI, No. LXXXIII; J. Ostrup, *Catalogue des Monnaies Arabes et Turques* (Copenhagen, 1938) p. 138, plate IV, no. 1312.

<sup>29</sup> G. Schlumberger, *Numismatique de l'Orient Latin* (Paris, 1878), plates IV, V, and VI.

<sup>30</sup> Schlumberger, op. cit., plate I, No. 12 and plate XIX, No. 2.

## THE FINAL HOME OF THE PAUL Z. BEDOUKIAN COLLECTION

Many thanks for your e-mail (*ANJ*, 2014, No. 3, p. 54). I can tell you why Dr. Paul Z. Bedoukian did not donate his coin and medal collection to the History Museum of Armenia in spite of his convictions.

It is disappointing hear coin collectors claim that their collection will travel to the Armenian Historical Museum for its final home, but when the time of final decision comes, they do something else. I have personally examined each coin, one by one, in Bedoukian's coin collection at his home in Danbury, Connecticut. It was one of the greatest collections ever assembled — it took his lifetime to assemble it and at great expense and much perseverance!

The late Paul Bedoukian personally told me many times that his collection would be donated to the Historical Museum of Armenia in Yerevan. His words were that the extremely rare gold medals, and ancient and medieval rare Armenian coins included in the collection are national treasures; and they are going to be the pride and joy of the Museum in Armenia.

When the collection was donated to the Armenian Library and Museum of America, Watertown, MA, I was totally surprised. The donation was announced by ALMA in February 2000 in U.S. Armenian newspapers. The collection included 4300 coins and medals as well as numerous antiquities including early printed books, ceramics, metal works, textiles, and rugs (*ANJ*, 2000, pp. 22-23). In recognition of all the donations, the main gallery at ALMA has been named "Bedoukian Hall."

I did not have the courage to telephone Paul Bedoukian and ask him why he donated his collection to ALMA. First, it was none of my business and he definitely did not owe me any explanation. Second, I did not think I should place him in any embarrassing position.

After his death, in early 2002, when we were in the planning phase of Bedoukian's *Selected Numismatic Studies II*, I telephoned his wife, Mrs. Victoria Bedoukian, a few times to request some relevant material which might be used in the publication. One day very politely and awkwardly I asked her, "Why did Paul donate his coin and medal collection to the Armenian Library and Museum of America and not to the Historical Museum in Yerevan?" She had a short and simple answer, "The present prevailing mentality and existing conditions in Armenia."

Y.T. Nercessian

## LETTERS AND E-MAILS TO THE EDITOR

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Ծնորհակա և Ձեր հարցման համար, որովհետև այն առիր համեստացած պարզեցի, որ ԱՀԴ 1-ից ցավախորհ դրու է մնացի Հռոմի համբաւական բռնկվումներից մի դրամ Սարկոս Ամստելդամի դեմքը (1839/982), կատարզի 425 և 426 դրամների ափա, որը Պերճ Կարապետանի հավաքածողից է: Այն դրվագ է եղել Հռոմի կայսերական դրամների հետ ու վրիպեր է իմ ուշադրությունից: Այդ դրամը կիրատարակվի Հռոմ կայսերական դրամների կատարզի մեջ՝ որպես լուսում համապատասխան դրամների կատարզի:

Այս դրամը ինձ օգնեց նաև պարզեց, որ ԱՀԴ-ի գոյրացացակում սպարժի են որոշ վրիպակներ: Գոյրացացակում նշված է 1839/983 գոյրային համարն ամենուն դրամ, որը կատարզում չկա: Դրամի որոշումը ճշտելուց հետո այն համել են կատարողից, քանի որ Վերաբերում է կայսերական շրջանին (տես Վերը՝ ցուցակում), բայց Գոյրացացակում մոտակա են ընչել այն համարը: Հայ Երևանոյին, այդ կատարզում փոխդուրս կատարելու հետո, Գոյրացացակում խայտանիվ է նաև կատ. 455-461 դրամների համապատասխանությունը գոյրային համարների հետ: Սա Պ. Կարապետանի ժողովածուի հետ կառ չունի, բայց, համեմայն դեպք, նշեմ ճիշտ համապատասխանությունները՝

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